FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 APRIL 1985

Lebanon

Israeli Withdrawal — Emphasizing the "unilateral decision" to evacuate IDF forces from the Al-Biqa' valley, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told IDF radio that the next withdrawal will occur in about a month, allowing time to prepare the security zone and examine Syrian reaction.

Internal Affairs — The conferees at the Islamic meeting in Damascus have agreed that security in West Beirut should be the responsibility of the Lebanese Army's 6th Brigade and the Internal Security Forces, pending implementation of a wider plan to abolish contact lines and reunify the capital, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam announced in a statement reported by Damascus radio. The Army will be assisted by the joint security forces established by the Amal movement and its allies subject to the approval of a security committee headed by the 6th Brigade commander, he added. Khaddam also announced that Prime Minister Rashid Karami has rescinded his resignation, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. Meanwhile, the Phalangist Lebanese Forces completed their withdrawal from the Sidon area, the Voice of Lebanon noted, but the Lebanese Army has not yet deployed in the areas vacated by the Phalangists.

Sudan

Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) leader Colonel John Garang affirmed that negotiations currently underway with the Sudanese Armed Forces "junior officers" are "positive" and that there still are "reasonably good prospects" for an SPLA alliance with an eventual people's government, the clandestine SPLA radio reported. However, the SPLA is continuing operations against the Sudanese Army in the Upper Nile region, the radio noted, and an SPLA commander declared that the rebels intend to continue the armed struggle into the "northern part" of Sudan.

Meanwhile, in decrees broadcast by Omdurman radio, the Transitional Military Council announced a reorganization of the presidential general secretariat. In another development, the secretary general of the Sudanese Communist Party has appeared in Khartoum after spending 14 years in hiding, SUNA noted. As for Sudan's decision to resume relations with Libya, Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali reacted favorably in an interview with Paris radio, stressing that Egypt considers the move will consolidate Arab solidarity.

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Air Force raided a large "maritime target" near Khark Island on 24 April, Iraq announced in a military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio. Meanwhile, in a speech to a "popular Islamic conference" broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn revealed that Iraq has suspended its attacks on "selected Iranian targets" out of "respect" and "appreciation" for the Islamic conference in Baghdad. The suspension will remain in force for several days after the departure of the conferees, he added.

For Iran's part, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni derided the mullahs participating in the Baghdad conference as "mercenaries of arrogant powers." In his remarks, broadcast by Tehran radio, Khomeyni also stressed the need for unity and solidarity between the Revolution Guards and regular forces, warning that a divided nation could allow Iran's enemies to stage a coup d'etat to "finish the job." As for Iran's military preparations, President 'Ali Khamene'i said the Iranian Armed Forces will not be forced into a hasty and premature offensive before they are fully organized and supplied, and he added that the attack will come at the "proper" time, according to IRNA.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Opposition to PLO-Jordan Accord 'Widening'

PM241720 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 24 Apr 85 pp 1, 2

[London *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* bureau report: "PLO's Rejection of Murphy's Proposals Deepens Dispute Over Amman Accord"]

[Excerpts] *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* learned yesterday that the PLO is now awaiting the Jordanian Government's response to the "compromise" proposals which a Palestinian delegation carried to Amman after the Fatah Central Committee, at its meeting in Baghdad a week ago, rejected Murphy's proposals and conditions regarding the PLO's participation in the peace negotiations.

A leading Palestinian source said that despite the fact that the Jordanian side has shown "understanding" for the PLO's rejection of U.S. proposals, this rejection was disappointing and frustrating for the Jordanian Government. The source expected the rejection to have a negative effect on the Palestinian-Jordanian accord.

One of those who participated in the PLO's meeting in Baghdad said that what is new about the meeting is not only the categorical rejection of these proposals but also the increasing opposition within the Fatah Central Committee to the Jordanian-Palestinian accord, opposition which led to this rejection and which, if it continues, could lead to undermining the agreement with Jordan despite the PLO's statement following the meeting stressing that the dialogue with Jordan will continue.

Salah Khalaf, [Abu Iyad], who has been leading the opposition to the Palestinian-Jordanian accord within Fatah, spoke for the first time about the possibility of rescinding the agreement with Jordan if this abolition is the "price" for restoring Palestinian national unity and resuming democratic dialogue between Fatah and Democratic Alliance factions on the basis of the Aden-Algiers agreement. Indeed Abu Iyad, at his press conference last Sunday in Kuwait, rejected the principle of land in return for peace.

Fatah Central Committee sources said that the circle of opposition to the agreement began widening after Hayil 'Abd al-Hamaid [Abu al-Hawl] joined Abu Iyad, Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], Abu Mahir [Muhammad Ghunaym], and Rafiq al-Natshah [Abu Shakir] in expressing reservations regarding the joint move with Jordan toward negotiations with the United States and Israel after it became clear that the United States is pushing the PLO toward recognizing Israel as a precondition to negotiations or, failing which, abandoning its representation of the Palestinian people in any negotiations.

A Fatah Central Committee member described the situation through which Fatah movement in particular and the PLO in general are passing as truly momentous, saying that matters are extremely complicated. What is being proposed to the Palestinian people is finding it difficult to win even minimum support. The dispute is not over removing or setting up a barricade, conducting dialogue with the PFLP, or rejecting such dialogue. The dispute now is over a matter of destiny because what is involved is the Palestinian cause and the resistance movement right from its beginning.

When *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* asked this official whether a stage of separation between those who accept and those who reject or between the moderates and the extremists has become imminent within Fatah movement, he replied that even this separation has become more complicated than anybody can imagine, including Central Committee members themselves. These members used to imagine that the separation could be confined to the "surface" only, but it has transpired that if this separation takes place, then it will go down to the grass roots and will have dire consequences for everybody. For this reason efforts are now being concentrated on ways to overcome this crisis.

The recent Palestinian "vessel operation" near Tel Aviv could have caused a tremendous propaganda impact which could have eased the acuteness of the dispute [within Fatah by placating the extremists] and would have been a practical response to Murphy's proposals to exclude the PLO and to attempts by certain parties to belittle its political and military value, but even this operation faltered despite the careful planning for it, according to a highly-placed Palestinian source.

The source summed up the situation by saying the following: All that is happening to the PLO at present is due to its adherence to its independence. The PLO is now paying the price of this independence on different fronts. When it held its PNC in Amman it wanted to assert its independence from Damascus, and when its Executive Committee met in Baghdad recently it also wanted to assert its independence from both Damascus and Amman. God only knows where the next step will be and how it will be taken. Members of the PLO leadership are scattered at present: Faruq Qaddumi is now in Indonesia to attend the nonaligned foreign ministers conference, Abu Iyad is making a tour of Bulgaria and East Germany, Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] is in Bangladesh, Khalid al-Hasan is in Europe, and so on. It is a difficult situation and what is more difficult is leaving matters undecided, even supposing that making a decision is easy, the Palestinian official concluded.

USSR Refrains From Receiving PLO-Jordan Delegation

GF241246 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0950 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Dubayy, 24 Apr (WAKH) — Press reports in Dubayy reported today that the Soviet Union refrained from receiving a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation entrusted with describing a joint working plan — related to the peaceful settlement in the Middle East — to the five major countries that are members in the UN Security Council. The Dubayy newspaper *AL-BAYAN* carried a report today, which was not attributed to any source, indicating that Moscow informed the concerned Jordanian-Palestinian sides that it is ready to separately receive the Jordanian foreign minister and Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department. The paper pointed out that the Soviet leadership refused to invite PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to visit Moscow at a time when it said a visit could be made by Qaddumi.

PLO Plane En Route to Nicaragua Crashes; Pilot Dies

JN250749 Amman AL-RAY in Arabic
25 Apr 85 pp 1, 24

[Text] The PLO announced the day before yesterday that one of its pilots had died when a plane he was flying crashed. A statement distributed by the organization's office in Amman yesterday said:

Palestinian air force Captain Khalid Ahmad 'Atallah Samir was martyred at 1400 on 21 April 1985 while carrying out his struggle duty. His Fokker-27 plane crashed near Soender Stroemfijord Airport in Greenland while he was heading for Nicaragua. The plane's wreckage could not be found until the following day due to severe weather conditions and snow storms.

A mechanical engineer colleague was also martyred in the crash and the rest of the crew were wounded, including Palestinian air force First Lieutenant Sa'id Mansur. The wounded were transferred to Copenhagen by a Scandinavian plane for treatment.

The statement said: While bidding farewell to hero martyr Khalid Samir, who was carrying out his duty with the Palestinian people's friends, the PLO pledges to the heroic martyr that the march will continue until victory. A joint committee has been formed to investigate the incident.

'Arafat on Naval Operation, Armed Struggle

JN241743 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1623 GMT
24 Apr 85

[Text] Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has said that the recent fedayeen naval operation against the Zionist entity has asserted the Palestinians' determination to wage armed struggle to regain their homeland.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar added that we do not carry out seasonal operations and that our armed struggle continues inside and outside the occupied territory.

Voice of PLO Notes Attacks on Tyre Positions

JN241833 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1623 GMT
24 Apr 85

[Text] The heroes of the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces attacked two military positions belonging to Zionist occupation forces and a third belonging to agent militias in the Tyre area of southern Lebanon this morning.

The attacks extensively damaged these positions and a number of Zionists and agent elements were either killed or wounded.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted these operations, but declined to mention losses. He said that his forces besieged the area, launched a large-scale search campaign, and arested a number of citizens on the pretext that they were connected with the heroes of the joint forces, who withdrew to their bases safely.

Voice of PLO on Resistance in S. Lebanon

JN242005 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1646 GMT
24 Apr 85

[Station commentary]

[Excerpt] Brothers: Fair observers of the joint resistance against Zionist occupation forces in southern lebanon will bow their heads in respect for those strugglers who bravely confront the Zionist war machine and generously sacrifice their souls for their freedom and that of their territory and people. They fight the enemy, who is superior, with all available means.

What attracts attention is the insistence of the Western press in general and the Zionist press in particular — through statements by enemy leaders — on describing the resistance as a Shi'ite resistance. We notice the strong emphasis on this naming. Moreover, we find that the enemy leaders, particularly enemy Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, express surprise over the change in the Shi'ites' stand in southern lebanon toward Zionist soldiers. After receiving Zionist invasion soldiers in 1982 with flowers, because they would liberate them from PLO fighters, the Shi'ites have become the Zionists' mortal enemies and strongly hate the Israelis. The Shi'ites who welcomed the Israelis turned into a hostile force.

This Zionist claim which is mentioned in the Western press is false. The claim aims at obliterating the clear fact that this resistance is not purely Shi'ite, although the majority of southern Lebanese are Shi'ite. The resistance comprises various Lebanese factions. This claim also aims at obliterating the role and identity of Palestinian fighters through their real participation and strong alliance with nationalist Lebanese resistance men.

The southerners were and still are the kinfolk and brothers of Palestinian fighters. These southerners still have good memories which are renewed every day through the joint sacrifices of Palestinians and their brothers, the Lebanese, in the joint forces. The enemy aims at annulling the name of the PLO from all fedayeen operations in the south. The enemy also aims at tarnishing the reputation of our fighters by casting doubt on their relations with the southerners. This will serve the enemy's objectives and policies. The enemy invaded Lebanon under the pretext of protecting Galilee and its security from Palestinian katyushas. This is in additon to other political objectives which we cannot discuss now, because this is an irrelevant subject.

What is the result, 33 months after the occupation of southern Lebanon and the departure of the PLO from Beirut? Has Israel guaranteed the peace of Galilee? Have the Palestinian fedayeen been removed from the arena of fighting? The operations carried out by our men in the joint forces are a good answer. The enemy announced that it will not guarantee that the Galilee settlements will not receive katyusha shelling.

The southerners, who were working on the lands of the rich landlords in Beirut before the fedayeen came to the south, learned revolution, fighting, and the meaning of feedom at the hands of our men. We consider ourselves the leaders of this nation in fighting the Zionist enemy. This is our mission. We know full well and believe that this revolution has a Palestinian face and

an Arab depth. We also realize that liberating Palestine can only be achieved, war or peace, through Arab unanimity and support for the Palestinian people and their revolutionary forces.

What also attracts attention is the enemy's concentration on the type of the Lebanese resistance operations, particularly daring operations which they incorrectly call suicide operations.

The struggler for freedom does not commit suicide. These are operations of life and eternity.

Through Zionist War Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, the enemy claimed that Palestinians have not practiced this type of operation throughout the years of their struggle with Israel, while the Shi'ites have carried out such operations. This is a false claim by the enemy to downplay our men's bravery, reputation, and sacrifice. We have many examples of this. It is enough to mention the operation of (Sabol), Dalal al-Mughrabi, and the French martyr Francois, as well as others.

Joint Arab Space Committee Concludes Meetings

LD241433 Riyadh SPA in English 1216 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Riyadh, April 24 (SPA) — The joint Arab committee for the use of the space network concluded its meeting here Tuesday night with a number of recommendations for the establishment of ground stations for communications with the Arabsat. The committee also recommended more efforts for explaining the role which the satellite would play in the media and development sectors in the Arab world. The committee hailed results of a meeting of directors of programmes of Arab television which was held recently in Tunis under the auspices of the Union of Arab Radio Stations. It also stressed the need for maintaining cooperation between Arabsat and the federation and other parties concerned. Meanwhile, members of delegations participating in the meeting have sent a cable of thanks to King Fahd at the conclusion of their meeting. In their cable the participants attributed the foundation of the Arabsat organisation to the assistance given by the monarch to the project until it became a reality.

BAHRAIN

Further on Saudi Oil Minister Visit to Manama

Received by Amir

GF240848 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0720 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Manama, 24 Apr (WAKH) — Amir of Bahrain His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah today received Saudi Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani who is currently visiting Bahrain.

During the meeting the two sides discussed bilateral relations and issues of common interest.

The meeting was attended by Yusuf Ahmad al-Shiraqi, development and industry minister and acting minister of state for cabinet affairs; Shaykh 'Isa ibn 'Abdallah Al Khalifah, development and industry ministry under secretary; and Ghazi al-Qusaybi, Saudi Arabian ambassador to Bahrain.

Departs Manama

GF241312 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1250 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Manama, 24 Apr (WAKH) — Saudi Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani left Manama for Riyadh this afternoon after a 2-day visit to the State of Bahrain.

He was seen off by Yusuf Ahmad al-Shirwani, development and industry minister and acting state minister for cabinet affairs; Shaykh 'Isa ibn 'Abdallah Al Khalifah, deputy minister of development and industry; and Dr Ghazi 'Abd al-Rahman al-Qusaybi, Saudi ambassador to the State of Bahrain.

Commentary Calls Developments in Sudan 'Positive'

GF241816 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Manama, April 24 (WAKH) — Bahrain daily *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* said that the current positive developments on the Sudanese arena is a sign that the Sudanese people are keeping an eye on their popular uprising.

The paper referred to the southern leaders agreement to return to Khartoum and negotiate with the transitional government and the announcement of the Sudanese premier that he would reconsider the International Monetary Fund policy and Sudan's relations with some Western countries.

The International Bank and the International Monetary Fund allowed the U.S. to blackmail Sudan politically and economically. This was why the situation led to the ousting of former President Ja'far Numayr, the newspaper added.

KUWAIT

PLO Leader Yasir 'Arafat Conducts Visit

Received by Amir

LD241121 Kuwait KUNA in English 1026 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Kuwait, April 24 (KUNA) — H.H. the amir Wednesday received here chairman of Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Yasir 'Arafat on the occasion of his visit to the (?country)

The meeting was attended by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Khalid Ahmad al-Jasir, deputy head of Palestine National Council Salim al-Zan'nun and director of PLO's office in Kuwait 'Awni Battash.

Meets Prime Minister

JN241817 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1623 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met with Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah in Kuwait this morning. They reviewed the latest developments in the Palestine cause and the current Arab situation. Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar also met with Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister, this morning.

Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar arrived in Kuwait from Dhaka last night on an official visit of several days. Abu 'Ammar met with Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad in Dhaka yesterday. They reviewed the latest developments in the Palestinian cause, the current Arab situation, and the Iraq-Iran war.

'Arab Revolutionary Brigades' Claims Attack on Editor

AU250705 Paris AFP in English 2112 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Paris, April 24 (AFP) — Responsibility for last night's unsuccessful bid to kill the editor-in-chief of the Kuwait daily *AL-SIYASAH* was claimed in a telephone call to AFP in Paris today by a group known as the Arab Revolutionary Brigades.

The editor, Ahmad 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jarallah, was shot by two men armed with a sub-machine gun as he was leaving the newspaper's office in Kuwait, the KUNA news agency reported earlier.

Mr. Jarallah, who was hit with six bullets as he was about to get into his car, underwent an emergency operation and was said later to be in satisfactory condition.

The caller, speaking in Arabic, said the Arab Revolutionary Brigades was responsible for the "attempted execution of the traitor" Mr. al-Jarallah, describing him as an "agent of the CIA (U.S. Central Intelligence Agency), and a partisan of the normalization of relations with the Zionist entity (Israel)." He added that Mr. al-Jarallah had also spread the "false ideas" associated with the Camp David peace accords.

The editor-in-chief of the Kuwaiti daily *AL-ANBA'*, Yusaf Marzuq, escaped a similar attack last September while he was in Marbella, Spain, though his driver was killed.

AL-TALI'A Concerned Over U.S. Presence in Gulf

LD241157 Kuwait KUNA in English 1031 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Kuwait, April 24 (KUNA) — An opposition Kuwaiti magazine Wednesday expressed concern over the increasing American direct military presence in the Gulf region and called on Kuwait to announce a clear stand against it.

In its weekly editorial *Al-TALI'A* magazine warned against latest press reports concerning an agreement expected to be signed shortly between the U.S. and Ras al-Khaimah Emirate regarding the establishment of a military base in the latter.

The magazine also voiced anxiety over the role of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) through a U.S. major company in technology, currently operating in Oman, as well as the visit last march of U.S. Central Command Forces — known as Rapid Deployment Forces earlier — Chief of Staff General Robert Kingston, to the Arab Gulf states including Kuwait.

The magazine stressed that these reports have uncovered U.S. activities in the area "and the real plans and intentions of imperialists seeking to dominate the region."

Meanwhile, *Al-TALI'A* lashed out at the silent stand of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member states on the issue, and called on the Kuwaiti Government to move toward an obvious stand against some GCC member states which had presented military facilities and bases to America.

The magazine urged Arab Gulf peoples "to be alert and strongly stand against any imperialist plans as well as the deployment of more U.S. military bases in the area.

OMAN

Information Minister Interviewed on Jordanian Ties

JN240901 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 24 Apr 85 p 18

[Muhammad Naji 'Amayirah's dispatch from Muscat]

[Text] Omani Information Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad Al-Rawwas has described the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement as a good opportunity for a wide Arab action that would push the joint Arab action into a more positive and dynamic position. Al-Rawwas was speaking to *AL-RA'Y* at his office at the Information Ministry in Muscat.

The Omani minister has praised Omani-Jordanian relations. He said that His Majesty Sultan Qabus' visit to Jordan is an embodiment of the firm relations between the two great leaders His Majesty Sultan Qabus and His Majesty King Husayn, and of their desire to crystallize the concept of fraternal cooperation in order to set an example to be followed by all brothers.

The Omani minister added: The two leaders agree on a joint concept of collective Arab action. He said that they believe in the importance of joint Arab action to restore Arab rights and to save the land and people. The Omani minister expressed his confidence that this visit and the two leaders' talks in Amman will contribute effectively to promoting the firm ties. He added that this visit will be a new addition to the edifice of fraternal action between the two countries, and a good opportunity to exchange opinions and viewpoints in the interest of the two people and the entire Arab nation.

Al-Rawwas added: Omani-Jordanian relations are progressing due to the two leaders' eagerness to crystallize an example of bilateral cooperation, and to reach the stage of cohesion. He said that His Majesty King Husayn's patronage of the Omani cultural week is a good example of the cooperation and high-level relations between the two countries. He said that His Majesty King Husayn's statement to the Omani television at the opening of the Omani cultural week in Jordan, in which he said that the relations between the two countries are distinguished, will remain vivid in the heart of every Omani citizen, because it is a sincere reflection of His Majesty King Husayn's concern about his brother His Majesty Sultan Qabus and the Omani people.

On cooperation in the field of information between the two countries, the minister said that this cooperation is good and continuing and that it is more than can be confined in an agreement, although an information and cultural agreement does exist between the two countries. He said that the agreement is a course of action. He added: We seek to remove formalities in cooperation in the information field between the two countries.

Replying to a question on the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement which Jordan and the PLO signed in February, the Omani minister said: This agreement is a good opportunity for wide Arab action that would be able to push joint action into a more positive and dynamic position in order to achieve the desired objective.

The Omani minister added: What we would like to say is that the harmony in the political concepts of His Majesty Sultan Qabus and His Majesty King Husayn has contributed to Oman's stand that supports this agreement, and that blesses this agreement and every joint action. He said: What we are looking for is a distinguished Arab action without formalities. He said that Oman is not far from its Arab brothers' hopes and aspirations. He said: We hope that the coming stage will witness more positive Arab stands toward this agreement. He added: Our government has expressed its support for the Palestinian- Jordanian agreement on joint action during the future stage. I can say that this agreement is, as His Majesty Sultan Qabus recently stated to the Egyptian magazine *AL-MUSAWWAR*, a good opportunity to reactivate the situation and to reach a dynamism that would contribute to achieving the required objectives. This depends on the extent of Arab support for this agreement, and on our ability to convince the world to support it.

The Omani minister said: espite the fact that man should be optimistic, the current stage is delicate and requires great efforts and a clear insight in order to achieve the desired objective.

On the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war and the threat it poses to the security of the Gulf and the whole area, Al-Rawwas said: This war has gone beyond the stage of anxiety to something more dangerous since its flames are spreading through the whole Gulf area. This may result in providing external powers the excuse to interfere in the region and this is what we are really afraid of. Therefore, we call on neighbor Iran to understand the extent of this danger and to stop this war which exhausts both sides in order to avert the danger of external interference in the region and to maintain its security and stability.

He added: We value fraternal Iraq's stand toward the efforts to achieve peace, whether on the Gulf, Islamic, or Nonaligned Movement levels. We call on neighbor Iran to respond to the calls of peace and to sit with the fraternal Iraqis to negotiate directly or even indirectly in order to stop this gruelling war and prevent it from exhausting the two countries' economy and threatening international peace.

Answering a question on the possibilities of Iran's closing the Strait of Hormuz to international maritime shipping, the Omani information minister said: We do not expect Iran to do this because the Iranian interests lie in keeping this strait open for transport navigation. It is also not easy to close the strait for any length of time. What is a alarming is not the actual closure of the strait, but the fear of the international maritime companies that there are dangers threatening the safety of ships and oil tankers. This would result in not sending their ships through the strait to transport oil and this is what is meant by obstructing international maritime transportation in the region.

He added: What is dangerous for the Gulf security is external terrorism, but we can confront such a danger with more security coordination among the GCC states. External terrorism undoubtedly may assume a certain form, or it would be implemented in cooperation with local sides. This requires vigilence and caution to facilitate following up the terrorist organizations' plans, locating them, and reducing their threat as much as possible.

On the large-scale military maneuvers carried out by the Omani Armed Forces at the beginning of this month, called the Ra'd maneuvers, the Omani information minister said that the Ra'd maneuvers were not directed against any external side, but were routine training maneuvers for our Armed Forces to carry out their national duties in protecting the country's security and safeguarding its stability.

He said that Oman will do its best to ensure the safety of navigation in the Hormuz Strait although this task is an international responsibility and it is not fair to ask Oman to assume it alone.

He affirmed that any Omani decision will always be made in cooperation with the GCC states and it will not adopt a unilateral decision concerning the strait and the entire area's security.

Al-Rawwas added: We extend our hand in all affection, sincerity, and clarity to all those who agree with us. Our policy has always been based on good-neighborliness, mutual respect, noninterference in others' internal affairs, and common understanding because we do not harbor aggression against anybody and we do not accept it from anybody at all. His majesty the sultan has frequently affirmed that this is one of the entrenched constants in the Omani policy.

On the convocation of the sixth GCC summit in Muscat in October and the Sultanate's preparations for this important event, 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rawwas said: The GCC summit periodically convenes in one of the six countries that make up the GCC and Oman is hosting the sixth summit this year. His majesty the sultan has instructed all organs to prepare for this summit in a normal and serene manner, and to try to make it a success in service of the security, stability, progress, and development of the peoples in the region. We will spare no efforts to make this summit a success in attaining the good objectives that are expected from this summit.

On Oman's celebrations of the 15th national anniversary in October, the Omani minister of information said: The 15th national anniversary has a special status in Oman and in the hearts of Oman's brothers and friends. It is a live embodiment of this country's achievements over the past 14 years under the leadership of His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id; during this time Oman assumed an important role in the Gulf arena and interacted with the Arab and Islamic causes.

On what some say about the GCC being a regional pact and an isolationist trend, Al-Rawwas said: Any positive action with broad dimensions and clear objectives will be the target of attempts to cast doubt on it by parties that are hostile to any rapprochement among Arab countries. This applies to the GCC which is an important step on the road to joint Arab action and Arab interaction to attain the desired solidarity. We tell those who try to cast doubts: Eat your hearts out. The GCC countries will not shirk their pan-Arab and international responsibilities, or those it assumes within the Nonaligned Movement. On the contrary, GCC countries always seek to employ their relations, moral and material capabilites, and potentials in service of the Arab nation, the Islamic world, and the international community. The GCC is a model to be copied by homogeneous countries. In any case, this is not something new. A call for unity among Maghreb countries took place in the fifties, and there have been many attempts at unity among Arab countries whether on the bilateral level or that of homogeneous countries.

On Oman's relations with the PDRY, the Omani information minister said: It makes us happy to say that there are contacts to improve relations and develop the methods of dialogue between the two countries to achieve mutual benefits. The Omani-PDRY rapprochement translates the concept of good-neighborliness and common understanding. The brothers in Aden are responding positively. As His Majesty Sultan Qabus had announced, an exchange of ambassadors is intended in the near future. This is a qualitative step in the two countries' relations. We have put aside dialogue through third parties by holding bilateral dialogue and consultations. We also exchanged delegations. The last meeting was held in Muscat and the next one will be in Aden this month. We hope that the positive steps for normalizing relations between the two countries will continue because this will be a basic factor in attenuating tension in the region. On Omani-Egyptian relations and Sultan Qabus' forthcoming visit to Egypt,

Al-Rawwas said that his country has close ties with the fraternal Arab Republic of Egypt and that there are common channels that are always open between the two countries' leaders and officials. He added: We always seek to attain a better interaction and to step up cooperation in such a manner that would serve the two countries and achieve the Arab nation's interests. He said: His Majesty Sultan Qabus' visit to Egypt is within this splendid fraternal framework which we seek to generalize to all the fraternal Arab countries, as this is a true picture of Arab solidarity.

Concluding his interview with *AL-RA'Y* the Omani minister praised the Jordanian press and its role in entrenching Arab solidarity and serving pan-Arab causes.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Receives U.S. Envoy Murphy 24 Apr

LD241311 Riyadh SPA in English 1145 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz this afternoon received Mr Richard Murphy, American assistant secretary of state for Middle East affairs.

The meeting was attended by HRH Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs, Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, the Kingdom's ambassador in Washington and Walter Cutler, the American ambassador to the Kingdom.

Finance Minister Comments on Washington Meetings

LD241328 Riyadh SPA in English 1218 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Washington, April 24, SPA — The American-Saudi joint commission for economic and technical cooperation concluded a two-day meeting here Tuesday night. The Saudi side was headed by Finance and National Economy Minister Muhammad Aba al-Khayl while the American side by Treasury Secretary James Baker.

After the meeting Aba al-Khayl told SPA that the meeting was "successful" and that they were pleased with the outcome of talks with American businessmen who showed a good understanding. He attributed the success of the meeting to the old and wide relations between the two countries. The commission was established in 1974 to boost cooperation between the two countries in the economic, industrial, trade and agricultural fields.

Editorial Sees Murphy's Tour as Test of 'Intentions'

PM241533 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 17 Apr 85 p 3

[Editorial: "Richard Murphy and the U.S. Commitments"]

[Text] U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy's current tour of some Middle Eastern states, including the Zionist state in occupied Palestine, is drawing increasing Arab and international attention because it represents a practical demonstration of Washington's intention to move again strongly and effectively in the region.

With other observers following Murphy's tour, we believe that the tour could be seen as a test of the U.S. White House's intentions regarding the commitments made by President Ronald Reagan to His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz during his visit to Washington last February. One of the most important of these commitments was his promise to hold direct negotiations with the Arab parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict. There is a U.S. proposal calling for a meeting between Murphy and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. The PLO Executive Committee currently meeting in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, is studying the proposal.

Although the U.S. proposal does not give a specific date for such a meeting, the fact that the White House has made it means that it has thrown the ball into the Jordanian-Palestinian court.

The proposal itself is proof of the White House's intention to honor President Reagan's commitment to His Majesty King Fahd and to renew its serious attempts to seize the available opportunity of a just and lasting peaceful settlement in the Middle East.

Murphy's tour and his talks with various parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict will continue to generate increasing interest in regional and international circles concerned with the Middle East problem until the PLO makes its position clear.

Khalil al-Wazir Arrives To Start Gulf Tour 23 Apr

JN241819 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1623 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, arrived in Saudi Arabia last night at the beginning of an Arab tour during which he will visit Yemen and some Arab Gulf states. Brother Abu Jihad will hold intensive talks with Arab officials in the countries he will visit, in order to review the latest developments in the Palestine cause.

UAE

Deputy Commander Views Military Developments

GF241134 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 24 Apr 85 p 1

[Excerpt] Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, crown prince of Abu Dhabi and deputy supreme commander of the Armed Forces, said yesterday the UAE "is determined to build the Armed Forces as it is one of the pillars of the federation."

In a statement to the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY (WAM) after an inspection tour of the Zayid Military City, Shaykh Khalifah said the Armed Forces had taken great strides in their ability to defend the nation.

"The Army is the shield protecting the national policy, the sovereignty of our lands," he said.

He said the UAE was coordinating in all fields, particularly in the military field, with other members of the AGCC to achieve security and stability, in addition to the protection of the common interests of the AGCC member-states.

Shaykh Khalifah said the completion of the military installation at Zayid Military City was a new asset added to the great accomplishments of the Armed Forces.

The military city, with its installations, equipment, road communication networks to be implemented in stages, were part of the development process, he said.

"The great care given to the Armed Forces by the president, His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al-Nuhayyan, and the sophisticated weapons supplied to the land, naval, and air forces by him are the potentials which pushed all of us to continue work and intensify the efforts towards building our Armed Forces and to enable them maintain the security and stability of the people," Shaykh Khalifah said.

Rumors of Providing Facilities to U.S. RDF Denied

GF250740 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0545 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25 Apr (WAKH) — The UAE has denied reports claiming that one of the UAE emirates will sign an agreement, according to which it will provide facilities to the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces in the region.

Citing an official source, WAM said that this news item, which was carried by the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-WATAN* on 17 April "claiming that facilities will be provided to the U.S. forces," is baseless. The source said that the UAE's foreign and defense policy stems from constant and well-known principles. Moreover, this policy is defined by the Federal Supreme Council and the federal government.

PDRY

10th Session of YSC Secretariat Begins in Aden

Chairman Meets YAR's Al-'Arashi

GF241447 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Today Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, received in his office at the Secretariat of the Supreme People's Council Presidium Brother Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, minister of state for unity affairs in the northern part of the homeland. He gave Chairman 'Ali a verbal message from his brother, Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress in the northern part of the homeland. The message concerned progress in the implementation of the resolutions of the (?third) session of the Yemeni Supreme Council [YSC] and unity agreements between the two parts in various fields.

During his meeting with Brother Al-'Arashi, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad stressed the importance of strengthening and developing the various aspects of unity coordination. He stressed that more steps ought to be taken in order to prevent the seizure of any opportunities by the enemies of our people and its unity and progress; steps should be taken to lay down the foundation for restoring the unity of our people and homeland. He pointed out that all organs in the southern part are very anxious to implement all that has been agreed upon.

During the meeting, they reviewed a number of issues concerning the horizons of unity work and other issues to be discussed by the 10th session of the YSC Secretariat, which began its work in Aden today. The meeting was also attended by Brother 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, member of the YSP Political Bureau and deputy chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and Mahmud 'Abdallah 'Ushaysh, minister of state for unity affairs.

Meetings Begin

GF241613 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] The meetings of the 10th session of the Secretariat of the Yemeni Supreme Council was held under Brother Mahmud 'Abdallah 'Ushaysh, minister of state for unity affairs in the southern part, and Brother Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, minister of state for unity affairs in the northern part of the homeland. At the beginning of the meeting, Brother 'Ushaysh welcomed the chairman and members of the northern part of the homeland in the Secretariat.

Brother 'Ushaysh pointed out that the YSC Secretariat's meeting of its 10th session is important in the current circumstances within the framework of coordination and cooperation in various fields between the two parts. He expressed the hope that this session will produce practical steps for implementing the resolutions of the third session of the YSC and fulfilling extensive achievements on the path of restoring the unity of the Yemeni homeland and people.

Brother 'Ushaysh said that the leadership in the two parts has been working hard on ways and possibilities to create a suitable atmosphere for fulfilling all that has been agreed upon within the joint committees. He stressed that the two leaderships are determined to end difficulties in order to achieve comprehensive and fruitful cooperation in various fields between the two parts so that our people's desired aim will be fulfilled.

Brother Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, on behalf of himself and the members of the northern part of the Secretariat, expressed gratitude to the brothers, chairman, and members of the southern part of the homeland. He expressed satisfaction over the good preparation for the meeting and hoped that the session will produce important resolutions that will serve the aims and wishes of our Yemeni people. He referred to the importance of the two

sides exchanging visits in opening wide scopes for coordination in various fields between the two parts. He also stressed the importance of coordinating cooperation between trade union and popular institutions in the two parts. He expressed hope that the session will produce positive results to be added to the chain of achievements fulfilled on the path of restoring the unity of the Yemeni homeland and people.

In 2 days, this session will discuss the Secretariat's report during the two sessions and review progress in implementing the resolutions of the third session of the YSC and difficulties accompanying the work of the committees.

3d Anniversary of Sinai Liberation Celebrated

Mubarak Addresses People

NC250919 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0813 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Address by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak on the occasion of the third anniversary of "the liberation of Sinai"; place not given — live or recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful and the compassionate.

Brother citizens: When the Egyptian flag flies throughout Egypt, it is a source of pride for every Egyptian, both man and woman. It is also a call upon all generations to safeguard our sovereignty and independence. History will not deny acknowledgement of this struggling and noble people for their incessant struggle and utmost sacrifice in blood and life for their freedom and independence, and for the eradication of aggression and repression in their homeland.

When we cast an eye at modern history, as recorded by historians from all over the world, it can only increase our pride in and realization of our responsibility to safeguard and enrich the accomplishments of our popular struggle: our resistance of the French and British occupation, and the successive wars that were fought not only for Egypt's sacred soil, but for the independence of the Arab will, as well.

The liberation of our land was achieved by the blood of our martyrs, and by the noble mother who lost her three sons in the wars for liberation and still cheered from the bottom of her heart for Egypt's ongoing life. It was achieved by every citizen, male and female, through a cohesive will and popular accord, rendering the Egyptian people a single front, in the battlefield, in the home and elsewhere, determined to repulse aggression and to regain our usurped land.

The Egypt that fought with such bravery and valor is the same Egypt that now calls for peace with strength, pride, and prestige. When the glorious October victory was achieved and when the entire world was convinced that we, as a people, reject suppression and capitulation, we initiated our call for peace. We have waged our struggle for peace armed with the strength of our faith and our mission. We have never advocated expansionism or war for war's sake. We have always called for lasting peace, based on justice. This call for peace triumphed after constant and persevering struggle; the land of Egypt was liberated, and the Egyptian flag now flies over every inch of Egyptian land.

Today's modest celebrations of the anniversary of the complete liberation of Egyptian land reflect our belief that we will celebrate genuine liberation when we also free ourselves from all remaining obstacles to the reconstruction of Egypt, providing the essentials for happy lives to every Egyptian family, doubling Egyptian production and its benefits, and achieving a dignified life in which the citizens' will and freedom are respected.

This is another struggle for liberation, and all of the weapons necessary for this struggle are at hand. It is a struggle with our own decisionmaking, willpower, and freedom. Every new factory that is built is another flag raised over our free land. Every reform that we carry out with all of our strength is a victory in the battle to promote man. Every action that strengthens our Armed Forces is another fortress for the defense of our achievements.

Brother compatriots: Today we must mention, with all esteem and respect, the man who led our march, both in the struggle for war and the struggle for peace: the late President Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat. We must also note, with pride and gratitude, the martyrs of our Armed Forces — the martyrs of the people, who sacrificed their lives to ensure continued life for Egypt.

I stress that the true celebration of the liberation of our land must be expressed in our sweat and work for a strong and mighty Egypt, which is proud of all of its sons. Egypt is the mother of all, and we must be its innocent sons.

We believe that Egypt is the homeland for all Egyptians and that all Egyptians are the sons of Egypt, and work for its prosperity. This belief is our greatest banner, which we raise together and with all of our hands, and with which we march forward toward the realization of all our people's hopes. May God's peace and mercy be upon you.

Mubarak on Sinai, Murphy Tour

NC241124 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1030 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Al-'Arish, 24 Apr (MENA) — Following his inauguration of the regional north Sinai radio station, President Husni Mubarak said: I am overjoyed that we have regained a dear part in the Sinai, Egyptian territory, after 8 years. He affirmed that the very high rate of development and construction, not only in northern Sinai, but in its southern area as well, increases his happiness. He said that what he saw today in north Sinai — the cities of al-Shyakh, al-Firdaws, Najmat Sina', and Masa'id — is definite proof of the extent of the Egyptian people's determination and willpower to reconstruct the Sinai as quickly as possible. He added: This is a sufficient source of pride for us. Go and tell your brothers in the valley. Tell them to go to Sinai, Al-'Arish, and southern Sinai to see what is happening there with Egyptian hands, planning, and funds. He affirmed that this is indeed a great work. He expressed his wishes for success, God willing, toward achieving progress in Egypt and allaying the people's suffering.

Responding to a question about U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy's tour, Mubarak said: "I cannot say that the tour has stumbled. His first visit does not mean that everything will be solved, for the peace process is very complicated. We must not despair." Referring to a *WASHINGTON POST* report quoting certain officials as saying that Murphy's tour has failed, Mubarak said: "We must have a strong will and continue to work. We must not despair. If we despair, there will be no hope in life."

Asked about his talks with King Husayn of Jordan and with Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman, he said that there are many topics to discuss.

Mubarak on Economy, Sudan

NC242120 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak returned to Cairo from Al-'Arish this afternoon after participating in northern Sinai's national celebrations. During the visit, the president attended a conference of political and executive figures and other personalities.

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif said that President Husni Mubarak delivered a speech dealing with economic, domestic, and foreign policies. He said that the president emphasized that Egypt will never forget the martyrs of the Armed Forces who sacrified their lives to defend the Egyptian people's dignity and honor. The information minister added that the president expressed his pleasure with the new projects being implemented in northern Sinai.

Al-Sharif added that the president asserted that Egypt encourages building and construction, and desires to alleviate the burdens of the citizens, not only in Sinai, but in the entire valley. The president explained that Egypt's economic policy is crystal clear and stable. He added that the 5-year economic plan has defined Egypt's economic objectives, and noted that the government has adopted measures to boost the economy so that it can preserve the rate of development.

The president indicated that building the national economy is based on liberalizing production. He added that the private and public sectors have parallel objectives. He said that the Egyptian people have chosen freedom and democracy. The Constitution and the law are the main aspects of democracy. He affirmed that Egypt respects all the provisions of the Constitution, for it expresses the Egyptian people's values, traditions, and Arabism.

The president said: Our relations with Sudan are eternal. He said that Egypt has nothing to do with the recent events in Sudan. Egypt does not allow anyone to interfere in its domestic affairs, nor does it interfere in another Arab country's domestic affairs. He said that Sudan and the Sudanese people choose their regime and leaders. President Mubarak added that Egypt is in constant contact with the Sudanese brothers. We respect our neighbors, he said.

Dealing with Arab issues President Mubarak stated that the Arab world is replete with problems. He noted that the Arab countries failed to convene an Arab summit. Mubarak said: We had hoped that the Arab summit would have been in continuous session so that it would shoulder its responsibilities.

The president mentioned the Gulf war, the Lebanese problem, and the Sahara issue, saying that Egypt takes initiatives to achieve Arab interests. He emphasized that the role of the Egyptian Army is to defend Egypt's national security. He added: We do not involve our Armed Forces in peripheral issues or in activities that do not serve pan-Arab issues or Egypt's higher interests. The president reiterated that Egypt has no military units or combat troops outside Egypt. He stressed the need for continuing momentum to serve the Palestinian cause, saying that Egypt is doing its part.

The information minister said that the President empahsized that peace is Egypt's strategy. He called on Israel to effect an immediate withdrawal from Lebanon and to refer the Tabah issue to international arbitration. He also called for solving the Palestinian problem.

'Abd al-Majid on Sinai

NC241600 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1315 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, 24 Apr (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has expressed confidence that Arab solidarity and genuine efforts to place Arab interests above all other considerations will help to restore the occupied Arab territories and will help the Palestinian people to achieve their legitimate right to self-determination.

In an exclusive statement to MENA on the anniversary of the liberation of Sinai, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that 25 April is a special day for Egyptians. It marks the restoration of cherished Sinai following the glorious October war, and the subsequent thorny peace that resulted in the liberation of our territory.

The foreign minister indicated that the liberation of Sinai embodies the Egyptian people's determination and profound faith that Egypt's strategic objective is to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

The foreign minister said that 25 April 1985 will witness another historical event worthy of celebration — the inauguration of the ferry service between Nuwaybi' and Aqaba ports by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, King Husayn of Jordan, and Sultan Qabus of Oman. This ferry service, the foreign minister added, embodies the strength of relations among Arab countries. Hence, Sultan Qabus' participation in this historical event linking the Arab east with the Arab Maghreb.

'Abd al-Majid on Israel, Syria, Algeria

NC242003 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1710 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, 24 Apr (MENA) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has affirmed that there is a consensus that the Palestinian issue should be solved based on the "land for peace" slogan. He said that it is not a problem of a population, but a problem of land and the people of Palestine. Therefore, the Egyptian position is based on the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. This is a right that no [word indistinct] can deny.

In an interview with the magazine *AL-MUSAWWAR*, to be published on Friday, the foreign minister said that Egypt disagrees with Israel [words indistinct] the issue is that of a population. There are undeniable differences on this subject, and we must all try to resolve them if we can, he said.

Asked about the outcome of the visit to the region by Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that Murphy's tour is part of the efforts to complete the consultations that began in Washington following President Mubarak's visit and the presentation of the ideas and proposals concerning

the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. The United States expressed its readiness to hold these consultations in order to learn the views of the parties concerned before a decision is made regarding a dialogue between the United States and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation proposed by President Mubarak.

He pointed out that despite the differences in views between the United States and the (?Arabs), such exchanges must continue, in order to gradually and calmly deal with these matters.

Discussing the goals of Israeli State Minister 'Ezer Weizman's visit to Cairo, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that this visit gave President Mubarak the opportunity to clearly define Egypt's position on Israeli-Egyptian relations, the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, the efforts to solve the Palestinian issue, and the Tabah problem.

Answering a question, the foreign minister denied that Israel has rejected international arbitration of the Tabah issue. He said that Israel is committed to an agreement it signed with the United States to refer any border dispute to arbitration.

Asked about Israel's insistence on arranging a meeting between President Mubarak and Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that President Mubarak has indicated no objection to meeting with Peres. However, careful preparations must be made for such a meeting to be successful and to promote the peace process in the area.

Asked about normalizing relations with Israel, the foreign minister said that Israel's decision to withdraw from Lebanon, Israel's flexibility in accepting movement toward peace, the improved living conditions in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and the Tabah issue being referred to arbitration will all have a positive effect on normalizing relations between Egypt and Israel.

Asked whether recent reports of moderation in the Syrian position are true, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said: There is no enmity between the Syrian brothers and Egypt. We love and respect the Syrian people. However, we disagree with Syria over some of its policies, such as its position on the Palestinian issue. Egypt welcomes and attempts to promote any contacts that are taking place in culture, art, and science.

The foreign minister denied that Syria's involvement in any negotiations on the Middle East problem will further complicate the situation. He said that if Syria wishes to negotiate on the Middle East problem in general, it will concern Syria more than anyone else.

Regarding Egyptian-Algerian relations, the foreign minister indicated that there are contacts with Algeria, and that our relations with Algeria are cordial, fraternal, and deeply rooted. Egypt appreciates the role being played by Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid in uniting the Arab people and in defending the Arab and Palestinian cause.

Ghali Says Libya-Sudan Ties Consolidate Arab Unity

LD242223 Paris International Service in French 2115 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Excerpts] General Siwar al-Dhahab's Sudan today took its first big diplomatic initiative — and what an initiative — the reestablishment of normal relations with Libya. Egypt reacted cautiously through the voice of Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign relations. When interviewed by Paris radio Mr Butrus Ghali said he considers that the Khartoum-Tripoli reconciliation consolidates Arab solidarity. He said this on the phone to Noelle Ghelli.

[Begin recording] [Ghali] [Words indistinct] Egyptian foreign policy is in favor of an improvement of relations between all Arab countries and this improvement in relations will certainly consolidate Arab solidarity. Within the framework of this general attitude, improved relations between Sudan and Libya are in the interest [word indistinct] of (?consolidating) security in the region.

[Ghelli] Somalia has also normalized relations with Libya. In your view, is this not a reshuffle of the political and strategic cards in this region of Africa?

[Ghali] No, I believe it is important that [words indistinct] all Arab states should improve bilateral relations.

[Ghelli] What is the state of relations between Egypt and the new regime in Sudan?

[Ghali] Relations are excellent and the problems of economic integration between the two countries continue. We have projects of [word indistinct] infrastructure within the framework of economic (?cooperation). We have a common market between our two countries and this project will continue. I think that relations between Khartoum and Cairo are extremely important and will not change with a change of government.

[Ghelli] Not even with an improvement between Khartoum and Tripoli?

[Ghali] Not even with the new improvement between Khartoum and various Arab countries. [end recording]

Ghali Returns to Cairo, Comments on Asian Tour

NC240637 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2120 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, 23 Apr (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Cairo from Rome this evening at the end of a 2-week Asian tour, which included Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, and India.

Dr Ghali said that he will brief President Mubarak soon on the discussions that he held during this tour.

During his visits to Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand, Dr Ghali affirmed that he met with senior officials and explained to them the latest Egyptian efforts concerning the Palestinian issue, as

well as Egyptian diplomatic efforts aimed at giving an impetus to this problem and breaking the deadlock. He said tha his discussions in the three countries also dealt with bilateral relations. There was an exchange of views on several joint issues, including Cambodia. Dr Ghali said that he participated in the nonaligned conference in India, which was convened on the ministerial level to discuss the Namibian issue, as well as some economic problems pertaining to the African Continent. Dr Ghali pointed out that in New Delhi he met with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and that they discussed the Palestinian issue and Egyptian-Palestinian coordination. He said that he had taken the opportunity of being in India to hold discussions with the Indian prime minister, the defense and foreign ministers, and senior Foreign Ministry officials.

Dr Ghali concluded his statement by saying that on his way home, he held talks with the Vatican foreign minister on bilateral relations.

Saddam Husayn Addresses Islamic Conference

JN241636 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1506 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Speech delivered by President Saddam Husayn at the second popular Islamic conference in Baghdad on 24 April — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Brothers, I do not want to burden you with talk about a subject you are discussing here, because you have talked about it in detail and with analyses which might have exceeded those we heard from Iraq. I am here to greet you in the name of the Iraqi people and to say: May God bless you along with your brothers and peoples, and may God keep you away from misfortune.

What we heard from you in this conference and in the first conference makes every Iraqi feel proud that the just stand has reached the farthest place of the Muslims' land. This is a great honor and at the same time an additional responsibility entrusted to the Iraqis and the fighters among them to march in the forefront along the path that is desired by the Muslims, because the satisfaction of the Muslims and the people comes from the satisfaction of God.

Brothers, as you remember, we told you at the first conference that we agree in advance with any resolution you adopt. I do not think that any of you does not appreciate this stand when a head of state agrees in advance to what a conference decides about a serious matter such as that of war. Why did we behave in this manner? Because we realize that the Muslims cannot agree to falsehood. In the meantime, we know that Iraq has no ambitions or aims that are rejected by Muslims. Thus, giving advance approval falls within the sound path and expresses a sound objective. We repeat these words at this conference as well, because we support any resolution you adopt. [Applause]

I do not want to talk in detail about the regime in Iran, but I would like to say in front of you that we in Iraq — leadership and people — are well aware that the Iranian regime and its henchmen are different from their people. We have to differentiate between the Iranian people on the one hand and the Iranian regime and Khomeyni's henchmen on the other. In order to have an accurate and sound separation, we say that we consider those who attack us as Khomeyni's henchmen and those who do not attack us as the Iranian people who are isolated from Khomeyni's regime.

As you know, Khomeyni's regime is attacking the Islamic conferences, including your first and current conferences. We listen to their radios and statements. They say that those who are attending this conference are not men of religion, but the sultans' men of religion.

Has Khomeyni not become a sultan? Khomeyni himself became a sultan and a ruler who began to order, prohibit things, decide laws, send armies, and commit aggression on neighboring countries. These actions tell the meaning of trusteeship and this is what has led to aggression. Khomeyni has appointed himself a guardian of all Muslims right from the beginning, although he knows that he does not deserve to be the guardian of the Muslims either legally or practically. However, he wanted this as a cover to expand and build a so-called empire headed by Khomeyni and his henchmen.

In the meantime, he attacks the UN Security Council. I am not in a position to defend the Security Council, but I want to clarify a historical fact. He says that the Security Council did not tell the Iraqis that they should withdraw to their borders when they were on Iranian territory. The Security Council said this. Khomeyni committed aggression against us on 4 September 1980 and we were patient and tried everything. The brothers have submitted all the documents to you, because we speak according to documents. God has granted us victory over him on 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 28 September 1980. His army retreated, was expelled from the land it occupied in Iraq, and kept away from our cities, which it bombed from 4-22 September 1980. On 28 September 1980, the UN Security Council issued a resolution calling for ending the war, withdrawing to international borders, and holding negotiations. Iraq immediately accepted the resolution. When we accepted the resolution, we were inside Iran. As you know, when armies fight, every army tries to take an additional piece of land from which it can defend the vital target behind it. This is a well-known military affair.

The war erupted, God made us triumph over his army, and his army retreated. We were on Iranian territory prior to 22 September. More correctly from the historical point of view, he was on our territory up to 11 September. Afterward, we reached the border. We fought again on 22 September and God made us triumph over him. The UN Security Council adopted a resolution calling for returning to the international borders and for holding negotiations. We immediately agreed. I want to show you how he is a consciously inaccurate man — and I do not want to describe him in other words in your presence. You known how the one who is inaccurate out of awareness should be described. It is impermissible for someone to appoint himself to a post higher than that of a head of state. In Iran he considers himself an imam. Such a person should be truthful. We have much evidence indicating that this man is dishonest. One of the most important qualities which should not be ignored is that he should be truthful. The Iraqis describe him as a charlatan.

In any case, what does Iraq want and what does Khomeyni want? You have become acquainted with what Iraq wants. It wants nothing. Iraq wants to live free on its territory within international borders. It also wants Iran to live free on its territory within international borders according to its own will. Iraq does not want anyone to attack anyone else and does not want any side to interfere in the other side's internal affairs. We want Iraq and Iran to be two positive elements for peace and stability in the region. We do not think that any human or heavenly law clashes with these concepts and principles in any way whatsoever.

However, we find that Khomeyni insists on war. Since the war began, no Iraqi official has said any word which either implicitly or explicitly indicates an ambition against Iran. Documents confirm this, because every statement is reported by the mass media and carried by newspapers, radio, and television. No statement was made by the Iraqi officials indicating interference in Iran's internal affairs. We have never said that we are fighting so the Iranian Government will be toppled, or so the regime will

be changed. Nor have we said that we have ambitions against an inch in Iran. Nevertheless, long daily statements are made on all levels, beginning with Khomeyni and ending with the others, indicating frank ambitions against Iraq and Muslims' territory everywhere. There was hope that if Iraq was struck, the nearby region might be open for them and the spark of sedition would then be ignited and the farthest point on the Muslims' territory reached. However, they were disappointed.

We say in front of you, brothers, that the Iraqis' power does not lie in their 15 million people. Their power lies basically in the fact that they are right in the criteria of Almighty God. Their power lies secondly in you [applause], because they represent the elements of righteousness we have heard from you in both the first and present conferences. They represent the sound trend. Therefore, we reassure you about Iraq. It is natural that no Muslim, human being, or Iraqi can say that we are indifferent to the blood of Iraqis and Iranians alike. But we have to confront this plight with the faith and capability it deserves. We cannot give up Iraq's territory, nor can we allow ourselves to be the gate that collapses so that the flood can reach the land of the Arabs and Muslims. Help comes from God.

He [Khomeyni] has been very conceited after the shah's downfall. The shah was Iranian and not an Iraqi who oppressed Iran. So why does he say: We have to liberate what is left of Iraq? The shah was a corrupt Iranian. We must blame Khomeyni, because the shah stayed in power for such a long time without being toppled. God has helped them and the shah fell. But they must not make a mistake and imagine that they can topple any ruler, any regime, or any people because an unjust ruler fell in Iran.

Khomeyni says: We believe in the liberation of Palestine. Well, words are tested by deeds. Iraq was practically tested in the 1973 war — and we were in this regime and are still in it — when the Iraqi Army fought on two fronts: the Egyptian and Syrian fronts. It was the only Army that fought on two fronts at the same time. Before this, the attitudes of the Iraqi Army and people toward the Palestine question were also known to you. However, no tangible stand by Khomeyni, either in jihad or in fighting for the Palestine question, is known. What is known about him is that he paralyzed a force that effectively fought the Jews — the Zionists — in 1973. Thus, every fair, logical, and rational person says that this tyrannical force wants to obstruct the abilities of a country that works for construction and welfare with its Arab brothers and through continuous cooperation with all of its Muslim brothers — a country that defends the land of the Arabs and Muslims when they are exposed to harm. This is how Iraq is described through practical experience, and there could be no contrary description.

You know that for some time we used to exchange bombardment of selected targets deep inside our territories. Naturally, this happens when a war erupts. You are aware of Iraq's ability in this domain. However, our bombardment of selected Iranian targets has so far been suspended for over 20 days. Why did this happen? This happened out of respect for this conference, and in appreciation of it. [Applause] We said if an Islamic conference is held in Baghdad, we must stop the strikes unilaterally and without an agreement, because the strikes are not aimed at killing a larger number. This is not an objective. The aim is to avert evil, ward off aggression, weaken the aggressors' positions, and urge the people to say to the aggressors: Enough war. We must take this into consideration at the conclusion of the conference in Baghdad and we have taken it into consideration without your asking us to do so.

We suspended the bombardment before you arrive in Baghdad, and we have continued this suspension during your stay. We will also suspend bombardment for several days after you depart safely for home, God willing, out of respect for Muslims and in response to a request by some opposition organizations in Iran, so that they can play their role in clarifying the disadvantages of the Iranian regime and the disadvantages of Khomeyni's regime and his unjustified war against Iraq.

You are most welcome, brothers, in your country and among your brothers. I wish you success and continuous glory. May God grant you success in your efforts. May the peace and blessing of God be upon you. [Applause]

Saddam Telephones Wounded AL-SIYASAH Chief Editor

JN241959 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1920 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Apr (INA) — President Saddam Husayn telephoned Ahmad al-Jarallah, proprietor and chief editor of the Kuwaiti daily *AL-SIYASAH*, at his hospital this evening in order to be reassured about his health. President Saddam Husayn stressed to the Kuwaiti journalist Iraq's pride in the role of the Kuwaiti press and denounced the vile plot. He also stressed that the plot was aimed at the free opinion and honorable stand of the Kuwaiti media men, who express the position of Kuwaiti public opinion with their struggling and honorable Arab pen. Ahmad al-Jarallah was the target of an assassination attempt yesterday.

Armed Forces Command Issues Communique No 1,814

JN241708 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Communique No 1,814 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 24 April 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our Armed Forces stand ready, with all of Iraq's loftiness and its mighty capabilities in equipment, personnel, competence, and daringness, to defend the homeland's borders and sovereignty, as well as the security of its sons. With their overwhelming superiority, these forces are completely ready to crush the remnants of the rancorous enemies at any place and at any time.

The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. In order to prevent the ruling Iranian regime from using its oil revenues to attack our land and people, a successful air raid was carried out against a large maritime target near Khark Island at 1000 today. Having accurately carried out their duty, the hero air eagles returned with their planes safely and triumphantly, God be praised.

2. Our Air Force continued daring operations against enemy positions and personnel assembly points in the operational sectors east of Basra and east of Tigris today. Having inflicted heavy losses on our enemies, the air eagles returned safely and triumphantly. They carried out 105 combat operations today.

3. Heavy artillery fire was opened on enemy positions and other hostile fortifications opposite our units in the operational sector east of Basra. Smoke columns were seen bellowing from enemy positions. Four of the enemy were also killed, one arms depot was destroyed, and several vehicles were burned.

4. Using all types of weapons, our forward units attacked enemy positions and personnel in the Maysan operational sector, destroying two infantry positions and killing everyone in them, hitting an observation post, and burning three arms depots.

5. An enemy infantry position was destroyed in the central operational sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 April 1985

2 'Maritime Targets' Attacked

JN251008 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0955 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Unscheduled announcement by military spokesman]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

In implementation of the great Iraqi people's determination to cut off Iranian oil resources because of the Iranian regime's insistence on war and on utilizing Iran's resources in aggression against our people, and as an expression of our brave Armed Forces' capability in all operational sectors, our giant planes launched a successful raid on two very large maritime targets near Khark Island at 1200 [0800 GMT] today. Having scored accurate hits, our planes returned safely to base.

We congratulate our heroic pilots on this new, splendid achievement. Go ahead to new victories until the enemy submits to peace in accordance with the just principles that were defined by our triumphant leader. From God we seek assistance and support.

[Dated] 25 April 1985

Security Council Postpones Consultations on War

JN250656 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0520 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] United Nations, 25 April (INA) — The Security Council today postponed consultations which began early yesterday on the Iraq-Iran war. A Security Council source told the INA correspondent here that Council members have before them two reports submitted by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar following his recent visits to Iraq and Iran regarding aspects of the dispute and necessary ways to resolve it. He explained that the Council's consultations are not aimed at formulating a draft resolution on the dispute, but at studying all aspects of the dispute and the possibility of discussing them with the disputing sides.

In a related development, diplomatic sources at the United Nations said that, upon his arrival in New York from Paris later today, the secretary general will hold two meetings with the UN representatives of Iraq and Iran in order to discuss the dispute and the outcome of his talks with French officials in Paris.

Ramadan Addresses West Asia Economic Conference

JN241550 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1315 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 24 Apr (INA) — The 12th session of the Economic Commission for Western Asia [ECWA] began here today. First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan opened the 2-day session with a speech in which he reviewed world economic events and developments that have occurred since the previous session, the results of which are reflected on the current agenda.

He stressed the need to pay attention to the role of joint ventures in bolstering economic cooperation among Western Asian countries on the one hand and between these countries and the developing countries and regional organizations on the other. He also stressed the need to modernize the member-states' infrastructures and to achieve positive results that would contribute to promoting development in this vital part of the world. He indicated that in order to achieve such results, the member-states should adopt clear, serious, and constructive stands that double ECWA's effectiveness, particularly in the field of implementing its economic programs at this critical stage of world economy.

He stressed that the practices as well as the continuous criminal and subversive acts of the racist regimes in South Africa, the Zionist entity, and Iran are only one phenomenon which has common roots and shares many characteristics, aims, methods, and results. He pointed out that these three subversive regimes are linked by a common objective to confuse and obstruct the development process, shake political stability, and paralyze economic and regional cooperation among the developing countries with the aim of keeping them economically backward.

In this regard, the first deputy prime minister referred to the Zionist aggression on Iraq's peaceful nuclear installations in 1981 in cooperation and coordination with the Iranian regime — an aggression which confirms the strong link existing between the Zionist entity and the Iranian rulers. He said that since the beginning of its revolution, Iraq has achieved decisive development on all economic, political, and social levels, as well as large rates of rapid, balanced, and ambitious growth. He added that this fast, programmed development has angered Zionism and imperialism, which seek to maintain the developing countries' backwardness. Therefore, he said, they incited the Iranian regime to launch an unjust war against Iraq with the aim of destroying its accomplishments. Delegations representing Bahrain, the PDRY, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar, Lebanon, Oman, the PLO, Saudi Arabia, and the YAR are participating in the session, in addition to Iraq and delegations of Arab and international organizations.

King Husayn, Sultan Qabus Arrive in Aqaba

JN241251 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Their Majesties King Husayn and Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id arrived in Aqaba at noon today. The two leaders were received by the Ma'an governor, the head of the Iqlim Qaba Authority, the Aqaba district officer, the commander of the southern military region, the Aqaba district police commander, and heads of departments and institutions. Sultan Qabus will participate, with King Husayn and President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, in inaugurating the maritime line between the ports of Aqaba and Nuwaybi' tomorrow, Thursday.

Cooperation With Oman Discussed

JN241258 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Amman — In accordance with the directives of Their Majesties Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id and Husayn ibn Talal, and in light of the distinguished relations between the fraternal Sultanate of Oman and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, a meeting was held at the Prime Ministry this morning. The meeting was attended on the Omani side by Qays al-Zawawi, deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs; Yahya al-Mundhuri, minister of education; 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rawwas, minister of information; Yusuf al-'Alawi, minister of state for foreign affairs; Salim al-Ghazali, minister of industry and commerce; Muhammad ibn Ahmad, the sultan's special adviser; and 'Abdallah ibn Sa'id, Omani ambassador to Jordan.

The meeting was attended on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, the deputy prime minister and minister of education, the ministers of industry, trade, finance, planning, and information, and the Jordanian ambassador to Oman.

The two sides discussed the distinguished relations between the two fraternal countries in all spheres and the development of cooperation and coordination. They agreed on forming a joint preparatory committee that will meet in Muscat before the end of May to study methods of action to entrench and organize cooperation. The committee will also study the possibility of establishing industrial integrated projects, increasing trade exchange, and establishing trade centers. The committee will also study the possibility of establishing a multipurpose holding company by the private and public sectors in both countries. The two sides expressed their complete satisfaction over the development of relations in the education, cultural, and information spheres, as well as the existing cooperation and coordination in these fields.

King Husayn Sends Message to Bandung Conference

JN250554 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn has sent a message to the conference now in session in Bandung, Indonesia, on the 30th anniversary of convening the first Afro-Asian conference which later led to the emergence of the Nonaligned Movement. His majesty recalled the historical perspective and glorious efforts exerted by the late leaders Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir, Jawaharlal Nehru, Chou Enlai, Ahmad Sukarno, and Josip Bros Tito.

His majesty hailed the ten principles of the Bandung Conference that represented a historical turning point for the march of the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America and positively influenced modern historical relations. His majesty pointed to the grave challenges threatening world security, such as the arms race, the imbalance in international economic relations, heavy debt burdens, famine, malnutrition, nonrespect for human rights, and the tendency toward increased territorial expansion, especially in the Middle East, where Israel still occupies Arab territories and refuses to abide by international legitimacy in order to achieve just peace in the area and where Iran continues aggression against Iraq and rejects international legitimacy and mediation efforts to end this conflict on just bases that preserve the rights of the two member countries of the Nonaligned Movement.

His majesty urged the conference to reaffirm the noble principles for whose sake the Bandung Conference was held and the ten principles that it adopted to promote the march of the Nonaligned Movement for the wellbeing and interest of its peoples and the world in general in accordance with the aims sought by its great leaders who met in Bandung 30 years ago.

Foreign, Information Ministers Meet U.S. Delegation

JN241333 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Information Minister Muhammad al-Khatib received a delegation of instructors and students from the U.S. National Defense University. The delegation is currently visiting Jordan. The minister reviewed the latest developments in the Arab and international arenas regarding the Palestine cause, as well as the Jordanian move to achieve a comprehensive and political solution witin an international conference that should be attended by all concerned parties. Foreign Minister Tahri al-Masri also met with the U.S. National Defense University delegation. The minister explained to the delegation the principles of Jordan's foreign policy. He also acquainted them with the details of the Palestine cause, the Middle East crisis, and political developments. He also acquainted them with the Jordanian viewpoint on achieving a peaceful, just, and comprehensive solution.

Information Minister Confers With Egyptian Minister

JN241247 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Amman — Muhammad al-Khatib, minister of information, culture, tourism, and antiquities, reviewed today with Dr 'Abd al-Hamid Radwan, Egyptian minister of culture, bilateral relations and ways to develop them. An executive program was suggested in various cultural fields, particularly in regard to publications, theater, visual arts, and literature. The meeting was attended by Haydar Mahmud, director general of the culture and arts department.

Al-Jumayyil Receives U.S. Envoy Murphy

NC251256 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil received Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Middle East affairs, at noon today in the presence of U.S. Ambassador Reginald Bartholomew and Ambassador Khalil Makkawi, director of the Foreign Ministry's Political Affairs Department.

Following the meeting's conclusion at 1345, Murphy said: It was a good meeting with President al-Jumayyil. We held 2 hours of talks, which dealt with my tour of the region and the situation in this area. We also discussed developments in Lebanon and Lebanese-U.S. relations. I can only say that we support all efforts to restore stability, security, and peace to this very dear country.

Islamic Meeting Delegation Returns From Damascus

NC251010 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Members of the delegation to the expanded Islamic meeting returned to Beirut from Damascus at 1125 today. None of the returnees made any statements.

Army Deploys in Areas Vacated by Israelis

NC251033 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Reporting on the deployment of the Lebanese Army in areas vacated by the Israelis, security sources note that an Army company left for Suhmur-Libayya this morning. The company later arrived in Suhmur Township in the central sector. The Army has also reached the outskirts of 'Ayn al-Tinah in the western sector, as well as Dahr al-Ahmar and Kafr Mishki intersection in the eastern sector. Army units have taken up positions in the areas of Rashayya al-Wadi, Kafr Mishki intersection, Sadd al-Qir'Awn, Masgharah, and 'Ayn al-Tinah.

Fighting Erupts Between 6th, 8th Army Brigades

NC251355 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Following a deterioration in the security situation caused by the Phalangist forces and the Army along the lines in Beirut last night, snipers from these groups resumed their fire at nationalist areas this morning. They then used automatic weapons in their attacks. This soon developed into fighting, which extended from the Al-Barjawi-Sodeco front to the old commercial center. While Sergeant 'Ali Wahbah was doing his duty in Ra's al-Nab' at noon today, members of the 8th Brigade and the Phalangist forces shot at him from the Sarhal and Qamati buildings. He was killed instantly. This was followed by fighting between the 6th Brigade on one side and the 8th Brigade and Phalangist forces on the other. The area remains tense and sniping continues. In the mountains, Al-Shuwayfat received sniper fire from Kafr Shima.

Lebanese Forces Begin Withdrawal by Sea

NC241413 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Excerpt] The first group of Lebanese Forces which withdrew from the eastern suburbs of Sidon left the port of Al-Jiyah at noon today en route to the Kasrawan coast. The group took with it a number of damaged vehicles and artillery. The first group of the withdrawing Lebanese Forces began boarding the ship *Charlie I* at 1100 today, thus implementing the decision to withdraw gunmen who are not residents of the Sidon area announced by Dr Samir Ja'ja', the chief of staff of the Lebanese Forces, 2 days ago. Eyewitnesses reported seeing more than 100 men boarding the ship at the Al-Jiyah port, along with five trucks, three bulldozers, eight jeeps, four pickup trucks, and some mounted artillery pieces. A security source reported that the convoy consisted of trucks, jeeps, 106mm cannons, and personnel carriers. Eyewitnesses noted that the vehicles appeared slightly damaged.

Arrive at Beirut Port

NC241814 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] The Lebanese Forces, along with their equipment, arrived at Beirut Port within the framework of the completion of the withdrawal operation from Sidon and its environs. Despite the fact that more than 24 hours have elapsed since the Lebanese Forces withdrew from East Sidon, Army units have neither deployed in the areas evacuated by the Lebanese Forces nor have these units implemented any plan to prevent the continuation of attacks against Christian areas. This has prompted observers to wonder why the Army is delaying its deployment and whether this is due to a political or military decision or to other reasons. It is known that the decision to withdraw the Lebanese Forces was communicated to the Army Command 3 days before its implementation. Yet, as of now, the Lebanese Forces have not observed that the Army Command or the command of the southern area will assume their responsibilities in the Christian areas.

Armed Palestinians Evict Christians, Burn Houses

NC241500 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Approximately 40 armed Palestinians entered the village of Darb al-Sim [in the Sidon area] this afternoon and set up their headquarters in the Jahshan building. They evicted a number of Christian residents of the village and burned down their houses.

Gunmen Intercept, Steal UN Observers Vehicle

NC241749 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Statement issued by the UN office in Beirut on 24 April]

[Text] Gunmen have intercepted a UN observers vehicle with License No UN 135 near the Al-Sadat tower building [in Beirut].

The gunmen threatened the two UN officers who were in the vehicle and forced them to get out.

The gunmen then escaped with the UN vehicle.

The UN offices in Lebanon have expressed extreme indignation over this incident because their mission is to serve Lebanon in various areas, particularly in humanitarian and social areas.

They are continuing their mission despite Lebanon's current situation.

Further on Lebanese Political, Religious Group

Meets With Al-Asad, Khaddam

JN241813 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] At 1900 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received the Lebanese officials, politicians, and men of religion who participated in the meetings that took place yesterday and today at Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's office. They are: Shaykh Hasan Khalid, mufti of the Republic of Lebanon; Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan, Ja'farite mufti; Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies; Prime Minister Rashid Karami; 'Adil 'Usayran, minister of defense and agriculture; Taqiy al-Din al-Sulh, former prime minister; Dr Salim al-Huss, minister of education and labor and former prime minister; Rashid al-Sulh, former prime minister; Nabih Birri, minister of resoruces, reconstruction, and the south; Walid Junblatt, minister of tourism and public works; and Dr Nabih al-Bizri, Sidon deputy. The meeting was attended by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

The meeting, which began at Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's office yesterday, continued at 1100 today in Khaddam's presence, and with the participation of Lebanese officials, politicians and men of religion. The conferees continued the discussion of the situation in the Lebanese arena and the city of Beirut. The meeting ended at 1830 this evening, after the conferees had completed their discussion of the topics raised during these meetings.

Junblatt Comments on Meetings

NC241807 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1742 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Our correspondent in Damascus just reported that Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] made the following statement prior to the Lebanese delegations meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad:

Progress has been made regarding the issue of the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya. We hope that the Lebanese Army will assume its role in Sidon. He added that the Army should be supported by armored cars. Junblatt said: The 1st Brigade should assume its role in western Al-Biqa and other areas as soon as these areas are liberated from the agent cliques. Concluding his statement, the PSP leader said that todays session of talks dealt with political and spiritual issues.

Karami, Ministers Not To Resign

NC242143 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Following their meeting with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus, the participants at the Islamic meeting announced in a statement that agreement has been reached that Prime Minister Rashid Karami and the rest of the ministers who have resigned will withdraw their resignations. It was announced that everyone is prepared to attend future cabinet meetings. It has also been agreed to form a security committee to supervise security in Beirut, provided that the 6th Brigade would assume this task after it is equipped with whatever it needs and after the contact lines are abolished.

The committee, chaired by judicial Police Commander Colonel 'Isam abu Zaki, includes Staff Major General Mahmud Tayy Abu Dargham, Army chief of staff; Dr Husayn al-Quwatli, director general of the Mufti's Office; Abu Sa'id, representative of the Progressive Socialist Party; Qabalan al-Qabalan, representative of the Amal movement; Munir al-Sayyad, representative of the Nasirite organization; and Lieutenant Colonel 'Adnan 'Azmi, representative of the Internal Security Forces.

Statement Issued

JN250618 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] A brief meeting was held in Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's office last night. It was attended by Vice President Khaddam and the Lebanese officials, politicians, and clergymen. The meeting took place following a meeting they had with President Hafiz al-Asad. Vice President Khaddam read the following statement on the Damascus meetings to reporters after his meeting with the Lebanese officials:

At the invitation of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the Islamic political as well as religious leaderships held a series of meetings in Damascus on Tuesday and Wednesday, 23-24 April 1985. These meetings were attended by His Eminence Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the mufti of Lebanon; His Eminence Shaykh Muhammad Abu Shaqrah, Druze community religious leader; His Eminence Al-Ja'fari; Grand Mufti Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan; His Excellency Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the House of Deputies;His Excellency Rashid Karami, the prime minister; His Excellency 'Adil 'Usayran; His Excellency Taqiy al-Din al-Sulh; His Excellency Rashid al-Sulh; His Excellency Salim al-Hus; His Excellency Walid Junblatt; His Excellency Nabih Birri; and His Excellency Dr Nazih al-Bizri. The meetings were also attended by 'Isam al-Na'ib, [Syrian] minister of state for foreign affairs.

The conferees discussed the various aspects of the Lebanese situation. They reviewed events in southern Lebanon and in the capital of the south, Sidon, as well as the recent regrettable incidents in West Beirut; these stem from the need to work for strengthening the general nationalist position and mobilizing resources and efforts to restore peace and security in Lebanon, liberate the Lebanese territory, and realize national reconciliation among the Lebanese people based on justice and equality.

Agreement was reached on the following:

1. The only option open to the Lebanese people is coexistence and national reconciliation in order to preserve the country's unity and independence, and provide peace and security for all the Lebanese under a democratic system aimed at cancelling political sectarianism.

2. To support the Lebanese national resistance in the south until the entire Lebanese territory is liberated, rejecting the Israeli

project aimed at establishing a border strip that Israel would hand over to its agents, and adhering to the implementation of the 1978 UN Security Council Resolution 425.

3. To support the city of Sidon in order to ward off aggression against it and lift the siege around it so that normal life will be restored in an atmosphere of coexistence, which prevailed in the city during its resistance of the Israeli occupation and following the occupation.

4. Within the framework of tackling the security situation in Beirut, the subsequent harm to the citizens' security, dignity, and property, and the dangers resulting from the continuation of this situation to the city and the future of national action, particularly in light of the latest security violations and consequent pain to everyone, the following has been decided:

A. The need to implement the Cabinet's decision to cancel the contact lines in Beirut without delay and until the government is able to implement a unified security plan for greater Beirut after the formation of an agreed upon security force. The security of West Beirut will be the responsibility of the 6th Brigade and the Internal Security Forces, backed by the joint security forces whenever the committee mentioned in the following paragraph deems necessary. The prime minister will endeavor to provide the 6th Brigade's requirements.

B. The formation of a security committee headed by the 6th Brigade commander which will be responsible for achieving security in West Beirut. The committee members have been named.

C. The withdrawal of armed elements to their barracks and the removal of all armed presence.

D. The (?neutralization) of the offices, provided they are unarmed, and provided the security committee protects them whenever necessary.

E. Lifting political and party protection from armed elements and violators.

F. Referring the investigation files of detainees to the security committee.

G. The security force mentioned in Paragraph A will be entrusted with the task of maintaining security; purging violaters; protecting the public institutions and establishments such as embassies, hospitals, banks, and others; removing the sights that infringe on security and the citizens' safety; confronting all appearances of armed presence other than those stipulated by the committee; and fighting all actions that may lead to displacement, sectarian segregation, and striking at the coexistence of Muslims and Christians.

5. Within the framework of discussing the general situation, the conferees affirmed that the unity of the supreme stand is essential to achieve an overall national stand. This necessitates bolstering and developing this stand so that national objectives are prserved. The conferees expressed great appreciation for Beirut's heroic stands and their adherence to the city's deep-rooted Arab character. They also expressed appreciation for the city's sacrifices in confronting the Israeli occupation, its agents, and the conspiracies aimed at dismembering Lebanon.

6. The conferees expressed their deep pleasure and pride in the liberation of new parts of Lebanon and the Israeli enemy's withdrawal from these parts. They extend their appreciation and admiration to the valiant national resistance in the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya and to our sons who are standing fast against the occupation.

7. The conferees extend deep gratitude to the sister Syrian Arab Republic under President Hafiz al-Asad for its continued efforts to help Lebanon overcome its dilemma and for its true brotherly eagerness to preserve Lebanon's national unity. With deep gratitude, the conferees greatly appreciate the sacrifices Syria has been making in order to preserve Lebanon's sovereignty and the unity of its territory and people.

The conferees agreed to form the security committee stipulated in Paragraph B of the statement as follows:

1. Brigadier General 'Abd al-Halim al-Kinz, chairman.
2. Colonel 'Isam Abu Zaki, member.
3. Lieutenant Colonel 'Adnan al-Ratmah, member.
4. Major Talal al-Ladhiqi, member.
5. Isam 'Ayn Sidi, the military official from the Progressive Socialist Party.
6. Qabalan Qabalan, the Amal movement's security official in West Beirut.
7. Dr. Husayn al-Quwwatli, member of the committee and coordinator of its operations.
8. Munir al-Sayyad, member.

Delegation Departs

JN251233 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Damascus — The Lebanese politicial and clerical delegation left Damascus at 1115 today following a visit to Syria. During the visit, the delegation met with President Hafiz al-Asad and Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

The delegation was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Minister of Presidential Affairs Wahib Fadil.

Al-Ahmar Meets Lebanese Party Official

JN241322 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, received 'Isam al-Mahayiri, leader of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party in Lebanon, today in the presence In'am Ra'd, director of public relations in the party. Talks during the meeting revolved around developments in the Arab arena in general and in the Lebanese arena in particular. The talks also touched on the Lebanese national

resistance's heroic role that forced the Zionist enemy to withdraw from southern Lebanon and western Al-Biqa'.

Comrade al-Ahmar stressed Syria's support for the national resistance in Lebanon, because this resistance epitomizes the Arab nation's feeling and dignity as well as the victories that the Lebanese people have achieved and will achieve against our U.S. imperialist and Zionist enemies.

Brother al-Mahayiri also praised Syria's support, stressing that Syria's principled position under comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad and its support for the strugglers for the sake of freedom, dignity, and liberation have helped to foil the U.S. and Israeli plans as well as those of their agents. He added that this support forms a foundation for the victory that our people and their national resistance have achieved over the challenges that their destiny and future are facing.

Foreign Minister Receives PDRY Official

JN241830 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Damascus — This afternoon Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received in his office Salim Salih Muhammad, member of the YSP Politburo and secretary general of the Central Committee, who is participating in the central rally marking the 40th anniversary of the extermination of fascism. During the meeting, discussions revolved around current developments in the area and the Horn of Africa as well as issues of mutual concern.

Bulgarian Ambassador Previews Zhivkov Visit

JN241905 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1500 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Damascus, 24 Apr (SANA) — Georgi Byankov, the Bulgarian ambassador in Damascus, has praised the existing strong relations of friendship and cooperation between Syria and Bulgaria that have been founded by the two great leaders, Hafiz al-Asad and Todor Zhivkov.

Addressing a news conference here today on the occasion of President Zhivkov's coming visit to Syria at the end of April, the ambassador said that the coming meeting between Presidents al-Asad and Zhivkov will be the fifth within the framework of strengthening and developing the relations of friendship and cooperation between Syria and Bulgaria.

The ambassador said that the visit, which will take place in the present complicated conditions, will give strong impetus to the relations between the two countries; it will also express the solidarity of the Bulgarian leadership and people with Syria's struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and reaction for the sake of liberating the occupied Arab territories and regaining the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The ambassador concluded his news conference by referring to Bulgaria's stages of struggle, development, progress, and great achievements in all fields. He also referred to his country's support for the people's struggle against imperialism, colonialism, Zionism, and reaction for the sake of complete liberation and the attainment of national independence and social progress.

Egypt Reportedly Colluded in Falasha Airlift

JN241826 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Rome — Informed sources in Rome disclosed today that the Egyptian regime's intelligence has colluded in the transportation of the Falasha Jews from Sudan to occupied Palestine. These sources said that this operation took place with the assistance of senior officers of deposed Ja'far Numayri, and with Numayri's approval and support. They also pointed to the generosity of Zionist circles, which wanted to transport the Falashas to occupied Palestine at any price.

Peres Discusses Arab Citizens, Egyptian Ties

JN250807 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 0540 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Report on an interview with Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by radio correspondent Do' Rabinowitz; date and place not given — passages within quotation marks recorded by Peres in Hebrew with superimposed Arabic translation]

[Text] Since the formation of the national unity government a new policy has emerged concerning the Arab citizens in the country. This policy is characterized by more goodwill and is more open to their problems. This has been stated by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres who affirmed that the government will continue this policy in the future. What message would the prime minister like to convey to the Arab, Druze, and Circassian citizens in Israel on the 37th independence anniversary of the State of Israel?

"I sincerely hope that these citizens will have complete equality with the other citizens of the state in terms of both rights and duties. An Arab, Druze, or Circassian must not be discriminated against because of his affiliation. Nobody should enjoy any privileges. In other words, I look forward to a society where all citizens will be equal before the law and in terms of opportunities granted to them. Each society, be it Arab, Druze, or Circassian, has the right to be different from other societies in terms of faith, language, and connections."

What has the government been doing in the interest of the Arab citizens since its establishment, and what course does the government intend to pursue in the 37th year of independence? Mr Peres says that first and foremost the government is perseveringly and carefully considering the Arab issues and problems.

"In fact some of these problems can be easily diagnosed. There is the lack of skeletal [haykaliyah] maps for the Arab villages. We want to prepare a skeletal map for every village. Another example is the problem of land. We are not concerned with expropriating land from anybody except in cases where we would expropriate land from Jews also. This can be for public or security reasons. Another problem that we have to deal with is finding appropriate jobs for educated Arabs, giving further independence and free decisionmaking to Arab authorities in the Arab societies, and so on."

I asked the prime minister for his views on relations with Egypt, especially in light of Minister of State 'Ezer Wiezman's recent visit to Cairo, and what the prime minister expects of these relations during the coming phase.

"The structure of peace between us and Egypt now looks like a building with closed doors and windows. What we have realized so far is that we have opened these doors and windows and have begun a serious dialogue with the Egyptian authorities. I believe that it is possible to solve issues over which we and Egypt differ. We must concentrate on this in the next phase. Of course the problem does not lie with holding a summit meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak but with finding a solution to the problems. The summit meeting will crown these efforts after the problems have been resolved. In light of this, the Egyptian and Israeli Governments have agreed to form working teams to deal with the outstanding problems. These teams will propose possible solutions. If the two governments accept these solutions, all the obstacles before the summit will be removed."

Mr Prime Minister, in light of implementing the government's decision to withdraw from Lebanon, there is an impression that threats by certain Shi'ite organizations and groups increase as the withdrawal is progressing.

How do you view the future relations with the inhabitants of southern Lebanon following the conclusion of the withdrawal process and after the IDF forces have been stationed behind the Israeli-Lebanese international borders?

"The Lebanese are not our enemies, be they Shi'ites, Sunnis, or Christians. We do not work against any Lebanese community and are looking for peaceful coexistence with these communities. However, while we have not done anything against anybody because of his religious, national, or sectarian affiliation, we have not stopped work against any terrorist be he a Shi'ite, Palestinian, or Christian. I believe that the so-called Shi'ite threat, if it actually exists, is directed more against Lebanon than Israel. This is because the terrorism and violence of some Shi'ite organizations and groups are to a great extent prompted by the desire to transform Lebanon into a Shi'ite state. It also shows internal struggle over leadership in the Lebanese Shi'ite community."

What about possibilities of holding negotiations with Jordan?

"I believe that after the withdrawal from Lebanon has been completed and when solutions have been found for outstanding problems with Egypt, a more appropriate psychological atmosphere will be created for beginning negotiations with Jordan. This needs time. We will work in accordance with the priorities that I have explained, that is, Lebanon, Egypt, and then Jordan."

One of the important problems that prompted the formation of the national unity governemnt was the economic situation. Do you also expect success on this front now that we are beginning the 37th year of the State of Israel?

"Yes, certainly. I believe that if we compare the present economic conditions with the state of the economy only 7 months ago when the current government was formed, we will find a great improvement.

"However, we have a long way to go in order to reach our cherished goals. We will work seriously and diligently to realize the goals we have assigned for ourselves. I suggest to pessimistic speculators that they should conduct a study to find out whether their predictions are true. Some of them predicted that hundreds of thousands would be jobless. They also predicted that control would be lost over the economic establishments in the country. Some of them speculated that the annual inflation rate would be more than 2,000 percent.

"I am sure that we have the proper means of dealing with the economic problems, including the state's hard currency reserves. We will deal with these problems and overcome them."

Shamir Views Lebanon Evacuation, U.S. Relations

TA241101 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
24 Apr 85 p 19

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Ya'aqov Ha'eylon — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Now that the Cabinet has decided on the evacuation of Lebanon, are you saying: "Thank God?"

Answer: I am not saying: "Thank God." This was a stage in our fight for our security and existence in this region. From the beginning, we regarded our presence in Lebanon as a necessity. We have not yet reached the point where our military presence in Lebanon is entirely unnecessary for the defense of northern Israel. The Cabinet decided on the evacuation, despite the fact that we do not yet have the full and definitive answer to the question of how to defend the Galilee in the event that terrorist attacks from Lebanese territory continue. The decision was made because a political solution could not be discerned in the near future.

Question: Is that the reason you voted in favor of Rabin's proposal?

Answer: Yes, in the hope that in the short period left until the final pullback, the IDF will prepare, plan, and find the appropriate answer to the security question.

Question: Looking back, what can you say to justify the military initiative in Lebanon? Where did we go wrong?

Answer: The "Peace for Galilee" operation was a necessity! It rid the Galilee and the entire State of Israel of a nightmare. There was no solution other than marching into Lebanon, driving the terrorists away from the border, and eliminating their bases in Lebanon.

Question: Did it have to take 3 years?

Answer: None of the people who initiated and planned the war thought that our stay would be so long. Mistakes have been made along the way just as in any other war, and just as political and military mistakes were made in all the wars we have experienced. However, the fact remains that we began negotiating our departure as early as in the first year after we went into Lebanon. We reached an agreement in May 1983 — as early as 2 years ago! We even agreed to minimal security arrangements because we wanted to shorten the IDF's stay there. We could not have foreseen that the agreement would be abrogated through Syrian pressure and the upheavals in Lebanon. We reached a dead end that persists to this day; now we have given up on a political solution and we are getting out without any mutually agreed security arrangements.

Question: Let us go back to the vote in the Cabinet. The vote cut through party lines....

Answer: That is what was good about it. In the previous debate preceding the vote on the evacuation, I argued that the vote should not run along party lines but should only be based on security considerations. This time, that is what really happened.

Question: Nevertheless, it was strange that four defense ministers, including the former and present ones, voted for four different proposals. What does this prove?

Answer: This proves that the considerations were purely military and were in no way connected to the political views of each voter. Consequently, it shows that the Lebanese problem is not a question of principles or ideology but merely of security.

Question: Just before Holocaust Remembrance Day we were upset by President Reagan's plan to visit a cemetery where SS men are buried. What would you tell the President?

Answer: That I am very sorry that the President got into such an embroglio. He has been a great friend of the Israeli people and the state, as seen in the friendly relations that are unprecedented in the entire history of the Israeli-U.S. partnership. This is a sad complication that was apparently the result of a lack of sensitivity on the part of his aides. I hope a way is found to resolve this embroglio, so that the strong relations between President Reagan and the Israeli people are not tarnished or tainted.

Question: Is there really a danger that relations might be tarnished because of it?

Answer: Any misunderstanding of this kind entails a danger. However, I do not want to speculate about undesired future developments that I hope will never come about. I would like to add that on Monday, Secretary of State George Shultz, the President's most authoritative spokesman, made an extraordinary speech. This speech is another reflection of the unprecedented genuine friendship between the U.S. Administration and Israel. For the first time ever, the United States stated that it would not demand that Israel go back to the 1967 borders. Shultz also mentioned the threat that artillery could pose to Israel if Israel returned to those borders. After all, this is the clearest security justification for our opposition to return to those borders.

Question: Is the national unity government the same as it was before Weizman's trip to Egypt? The scar....

Answer: Confrontations might leave scars. If this is the last confrontation, the scar will heal.

Qeustion: How would you sum up the results of Weizman's trip to Egypt?

Answer: As far as I am concerned, his visit did not change the situation either for better or for worse. Also, he could not undertake any Israeli commitment.

Question: Have new conditions for a summit meeting not been created either?

Answer: A summit meeting will be held according to the results of the dialogue between our representatives and those of Egypt. If, in the wake of these talks, it emerges that such a

summit meeting is warranted, it will take place. The purpose of the talks is not to hold a summit meeting but to improve relations.

Question: What are the limits you would put to holding talks with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation? Is it only opposition to including PLO members in the delegation?

Answer: Israel's position on this issue remains unchanged. We are prepared to conduct talks with Jordan without any preconditions. If the delegation includes Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el, we will not refuse to talk to them — on the condition that they are not members of the PLO.

Question: What if they are avowed PLO supporters?

Answer: I said: No member of the PLO. Question: There have been reports that certain East European countries would like to strengthen their relations with Israel. Is there anything to these reports?

Answer: Talks have been held on this possibility. What is good about such talks is that they pave the way to wider and more formal relations. The less said about these matters, the better.

Question: Extreme Arab countries such as Iraq and Algeria are inclined toward a rapprochement with the United States. Do you not fear that this might change U.S. policy toward us?

Answer: This is a particularly remarkable phenomenon! We are witnessing a political development that is incompatible with the theory upheld by U.S. politicians for many years that the United States cannot have close friendly relations with Israel and with the Arab countries at the same time. This was the reason for the restraint and reservations in its relations with Israel. Today, we are witnessing the exact opposite. At a time when relations between Israel and the United States have reached a climax in terms of closeness and cooperation, there is an increasing tendency among all the Arab countries to have friendly relations with the United States. We say that this tendency, this rapprochement between the Arab countries and the United States, stems particularly from the closeness between the United States and Israel. This is a revolutionary change, both in word and deed, in U.S. policy in the Middle East which, I believe, serves our own interests.

Question: Your rivals argue that the Foreign Ministry sits on its laurels and does not take any initiatives.

Answer: We will judge by the results....

Question: Does the Foreign Ministry think that initiatives on the Israeli-Arab question should be toned down?

Answer: We should strive for that which is possible and compatible with Israel's interests. People have gotten used to the idea that when somebody wants to promote the so-called "political process," this means, first and foremost, Israeli concessions. After Camp David, Israel has nothing left to give up. We want peace with the Arab countries, and it is important to us that this peace should come about after they have come to terms with Israel as it is.

Shamir Hints at Resignation in 3 Years

TA241028 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 24 Apr 85 p 1

[Report on "exclusive" interview with Yitzhaq Shamir, Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, by political correspondent Yosi Melman at Shamir's home in Jerusalem — date not given]

[Text] Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has hinted that he might quit the political arena in approximately 3 years, once the unity government has completed its term.

In an interview with *DAVAR*, Yitzhaq Shamir was asked whether he would consider resigning in view of the declarations by David Levi and Ari'el Sharon that they will compete for the premiership in another 3 years. "Anything can happen in 3 years," he replied.

Shamir also said that if he is invited to attend the summit meeting between the Egyptian president and Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, he will accept the invitation and participate in the talks.

Shamir believes that the national unity government will continue to function as long as the Likud and the Alignment uphold the agreements they signed, although he believes that so far only the Labor Party has deviated from several clauses. He does admit, however, that "a number of mistakes" were made in the Lebanese war.

Rabin, Military Officers on Eastern Sector Evacuation

Rabin Interviewed

TA241454 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1418 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Report on interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by military correspondent Gay Zohar during a tour of the eastern sector of southern Lebanon on 24 April — recorded]

[Text] [Zohar] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin toured the evacuation area in southern Lebanon today, accompanied by the chief of staff, the commander of the Northern Command, and other senior officers. The minister expressed his satisfaction with the manner and pace with which the evacuation was being carried out. The next stage, he said, will be implemented in about a month since the works in the security zone area should be completed by then. We will thus also have time to examine the Syrian reaction. Our military correspondent Gay Zohar brings the defense minister's remarks.

[Rabin] I would very much like to hope that the Syrians will understand we have certain restrictions beyond which we will not be able to rest idly. I will not publicly specify what these restrictions are.

[Zohar] Has any coordination been achieved with the Lebanese Army or with local elements?

[Rabin] In fact, except for the first stage of implementing the Cabinet's decision on a redeployment along the international border, there was no coordination with the Lebanese Army or with the Syrians. This is a unilateral decision by the government, and this is a unilateral implementation by the IDF. On the other hand, we hope that the very willingness to return to the international border and maintain an IDF-backed security zone will eliminate the motivation of those who want to hurt us due to our presence in Lebanon. It is very possible that terrorist elements — with or without Syrian encouragement — who are inclined to continue the activity even after the completion of the redeployment, will remain there, and it is with them that we will clash.

[Zohar] The Christians in Jazzin have expressed their desire to maintain a land connection with the security zone. Will Israel support this? Will Israel aid them in this?

[Rabin] In the framework of our wish to maintain contacts with all communities — let me emphasize, with all communities, including Christians, Shi'ites, and Druze — if the Christians manage to maintain a connection with the southern Christian sector in the security zone, let them do so. As far as we are concerned, we will not activate the IDF for this.

[Zohar] As for the implementation of the next stage of the evacuation, in about a month, the defense minister said:

[Rabin] For me, the reason for this time frame is twofold: First, it is necessary for the preparation of the security zone; and second, in this sector, we have the benefit of being on a line that will allow us to observe the Syrian tendencies. This is due to the fact that, as I said before, there was no coordination whatsoever between us and the Syrians.

Rabin on Syrian Moves

TA241935 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky in the eastern sector of Lebanon on 24 April — recorded]

[Text] [Rabin] I hope we will not stay for a long time after this evacuation now. We will wait and see the Syrian reactions; we will continue with the third stage which will bring us back to the international border.

[Shlonsky] Is there any silent understanding, any red lines that were posed to the Syrians?

[Rabin] No, it is impossible to say that today I know of any taciturn understanding with the Syrians. I very much hope the Syrians know there is a line that we will not allow to be crossed. We did not specify this, nor will I go into details here. I assume they have sufficient information to know what we will not allow.

[Shlonsky] What about the entry of Palestinian terrorists into the vacuum now created between our area and their area?

[Rabin] I would not say this is impossible. Our deployment, including the establishment of the security zone, once we reach the international border, must give the answer to this.

[Shlonsky] There are difficulties in establishing the local forces, the civil guards, in the villages along the security zone. In your estimation, can these forces hold out in case of pressure by Shi'ites in the west and terrorists in the east?

[Rabin] Our assumption is that the local forces, the two components involved — the static being the civil guards and the mobile being the army of the southern Lebanon [ASL] — can hold out.

If we see them being attacked by various terrorist elements, we will come to their aid. We do not wish terrorist elements to take over this area.

In any event, even in the absence of civil guards and the ASL, if we notice when we are back on the international border attempts to reorganize a terrorist infrastructure, we will act against this. This will not be done to remain in the area but to enter, remove the terrorist presence, and return.

[Shlonsky] In your assessment, will the Syrians encourage anti-Israeli terrorist elements on both sectors in Lebanon?

[Rabin] I am afraid so, judging from statements by the Syrian leaders, foremost those by President al-Asad.

Chief of Staff Levi

TA241505 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1405 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Report on interview with Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi by military correspondent Gay Zohar during a tour of the eastern sector of Lebanon on 24 April — recorded]

[Text] [Levi] The IDF is continuing with its evacuation plan. On the eastern sector it will deploy in the Hasbayya region. The next stage of the redeployment will take place in the western sector, when we evacuate the Tyre area and deploy in the security zone also on the western sector.

[Zohar] Eyes are now directed toward the Syrians, as the major element which will surely determine the developments in the area after we leave.

[Levi] It seems the Syrians understand that their military involvement in Lebanon is not successful as far as they are concerned. They intend to focus their involvement on exerting pressure and activating powerful elements, in an attempt to establish indirect control over Lebanon.

However, if some elements have different intentions, well, we should then rely not only on assessments but also on maintaining our forces in the event those different intentions are expressed in acts, whether voluntarily or inadvertently.

Commander Or

TA241540 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1405 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Interview with Ori Or, the commander of the Northern Command, by military correspondent Gay Zohar, during a tour of the eastern sector of Lebanon on 24 April — recorded]

[Text] [Or] As for the residents of this evacuated area where we were present for 3 years, there was full coordination with them. We bade farewell to the villages we are leaving today, and this includes all villagers there: Christians, Druze, and Shi'ites. As for the elements that do not talk directly with us, and I am not referring to the Syrians here, we took care to inform them that we were leaving this morning. These elements include the Lebanese Army and others.

[Zohar] What is your expectation regarding what will happen in the area now?

[Or] The question is not what my expectations are, but what my assessments are. There are many assessments, some more and some less rosy. The assessment is that not much will change, that the Syrian Army will advance slightly. As for the worst, masses of terrorists and Syrians may advance toward the border. In any event, we are preparing for both possibilities.

[Zohar] A vacuum will be created in the area. Do you anticipate that this will entail the entry of terrorists there, with Syrian encouragement?

[Or] I said this is up to the Syrians. This is expected, but let us wait and see how the Syrians will react.

Lebanese Villagers Celebrate IDF Withdrawal

TA241438 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] The IDF soldiers who evacuated the eastern sector reported that from a distance they saw thousands of villagers swarming to the vacated posts. They said that villagers from Ghazzah and Ba'lul ran to the posts, hoisted flags, and started to celebrate. Correspondents in the Al-Biqa' area report that in several places the villagers greeted, with rice and roses, the soldiers of the Lebanese Army who quickly entered the area evacuated by the IDF.

Contrary to this, in the Christian town of Jazzin there is an extremely tense atmosphere. Some of the people there expressed fear for their lives, whereas others were encouraged by the hope that the army of southern Lebanon will continue to protect them also after the IDF's withdrawal.

Following the evacuation of the eastern sector and Jazzin, the IDF is in control of approximately 235,000 Lebanese citizens; 135,000 of them Shi'ites, 35,000 Christians, 40,000 Palestinians, 15,000 Sunnis, and 15,000 Druze. The IDF is still in control over 10 percent of Lebanon, that is 1,250 square km.

Arens Opposes Security Strip in Lebanon

TA241544 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Minister Moshe Arens says that the disadvantages of the security strip in Lebanon outweigh its advantages; it is preferable to settle for the international border. Minister Arens was addressing students in 'Afula. In an answer to another question, Moshe Arens said that Kahane and Kahaneism represent the insane fringes of Israeli society.

Maj Gen Shomron Views Syria's Role in Terrorism

TA241210 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 24 Apr 85 p 20

[Interview with Deputy Chief of Staff Major General Dan Shomron, by military correspondent Yosef Walter — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Question: We have lately been witnessing attempts by Palestinian terrorist organizations to entrench themselves in the areas the IDF is about to evacuate. This is also evident in the eastern sector of Lebanon, where they are plotting their activities with Syria's support and from Syrian territory. Does this signify a possible clash with Syria?

Answer: First, the Syrians can be held responsible, while the Lebanese cannot. The Syrians know that if we manage to conclusively attribute terrorist acts to them, Israel will retaliate against them. We will not accept the game that Syria has tried to play more than once — namely, that it is a bystander who is merely allowing the terrorists to pass through. The rules of the game are not new to the Syrians. I suppose that in this case, the Syrians might try to test Israel's limits. However, I am convinced that Damascus knows very well that it cannot encourage such acts without us holding them responsible.

Question: Should we demarcate red lines for Syria after the IDF withdrawal? How do you think Damascus will act once the IDF withdraws from Lebanon?

Answer: I do not think that the concept of "red lines" is appropriate. The rules of the game are laid out, and each side tries to test the limit of the other side's patience. In testing these limits, tensions may develop that might even lead to hostile activity. This is why I do not rule out the possibility that, as a result of the Syrian attempts to test the rules of the game, tensions, even incidents, might develop. As long as Syria realizes what moves Israel will not tolerate, it will refrain from making them, and in this way hostilities will be avoided.

Question: Interviews with Shi'ite suicide terrorists have indicated that Syria is behind many terrorist acts. Will Israel consider Syria responsible for Shi'ite terrorism, and does the IDF have an answer to this phenomenon?

Answer: The Syrians probably believe that a popular struggle is the best way to attack Israel. Suicide operations are the most difficult form of terrorism to counteract. I think that this phenomenon can be fought, although this would impose an additional burden on the local population, such as restrictions,

detentions, and so on. This is a problem, because our aim is to have good-neighborly relations. This problem will be irrelevant once we are stationed behind the international border.

Question: Do you think the phenomenon will pursue us, not necessarily southward from Lebanon, but overseas against Israeli targets?

Answer: I am afraid that it has a contagious effect. What happens in Lebanon also affects the tension in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. It can spark the imagination of those who want to fight. If you are asking whether we will consider Syria responsible, I think that we cannot expect Damascus to be the defender of the State of Israel. However, it will be a different story if we learn that Syria is the one that is arming, training, and sending the Shi'ite suicide attackers to fight us.

Question: Do you think a war with Syria is unavoidable?

Answer: A war will be averted as long as Syria understands that it has no chance of gaining anything. If it ever thinks otherwise, a war will be unavoidable. I believe that Syria is correctly assessing the balance of forces....

Question: What are the advantages of strategic cooperation with the United States?

Answer: This cooperation is important in various respects: First, the deterrent aspect. Once our neighbors realize that U.S. support is continuous, this will constitute a major deterrent factor.

Question: Do you think that in the next war, the enemy will try to attack targets within Israeli territory?

Answer: The Syrians could have done this in previous wars, but they did not because they knew what our reaction would have been. They are aware of our sensitivity on this point, and how harsh our response would be.

Algeria's Moderate Image Seen as 'Baseless'

TA260729 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Israel has directed U.S. attention to Algeria's role in training the Fatah men who were caught on the boat off Israel's coast. In talks with U.S. officials in Washington, the Israeli representatives stressed that Algeria's moderate image is baseless. Our correspondent in Washington recalls that several days ago Algeria's president visited Washington and in seeking to purchase arms he said his country is now moderate and pro-Western.

Gaza Notables Protest Exclusion From Murphy Talks

TA241017 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Notables and dignitaries from the Gaza Strip have complained to the Americans about the fact that they were not included in the political talks. Our correspondent Arye Gus has learned that the mayor of Gaza and several committee heads from Gaza Strip refugee camps have complained to the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv that they were not invited to the meeting with Richard Murphy.

Egypt's Basyuni Cites Deadline for Tabah Arbitration

TA240845 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 24 Apr 85 pp 1, 2

[Report by Mikha'el 'Eylan]

[Excerpts] Egypt insists that arbitration over Tabah be completed within about three months, Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Basyuni told *THE JERUSALEM POST* yesterday.

Israel has not yet agreed to the Egyptian demand to submit the dispute over the strip of Sinai coast to arbitration. There has been some movement in this direction, but the new Egyptian demand may make progress on this issue — essential before a summit meeting between Premier Peres and President Mubarak — even more difficult.

Basyuni, speaking to *THE POST* editorial staff, said Egypt wants a completion date for arbitration, because it believes that time is of the essence in the current stage of the peace process. "We must go quickly not to give the extremists a chance," he said, alluding to extremists within the Palestinian camp and countries such as Syria and Jordan.

He said it is not necessary to complete this arbitration before the summit. Rather it is necessary to continue with the new efforts to warm up the cold peace between Israel and Egypt. Israel has, or is completing, two of three Egyptian conditions for improving bilateral relations. It is withdrawing from Lebanon and its present moves show a willingness to continue the peace process with Jordan and the Palestinians, Basyuni said. What remains is Tabah, which has become an issue of major proportions in Egypt, he added. It is not enough, he said, for Israel to agree on arbitration, agree to an arbitrator, and then wait for an arbitration whichcould last 10 years, for example. "Do you want a cold peace for 10 years?" he asked.

Basyuni stressed the central role accorded by Egyptian policymakers to a "dialogue" between a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and the U.S. This idea was first raised by Mubarak, but has not been rejected by Israel. He said such talks would not be negotiations or even "conversations" but they are essential in Egypt's view before any continuation of the peace process beyond Cairo and Jerusalem.

The Americans, he said, referring to envoy Richard Murphy's Mideast shuttling, want some assurance of success, before they return with vigour to the peace process. American commitment to the peace process is essential. Jordan's King Husayn also wants to be sure that "there is a light at the end of the tunnel" before openly committing himself to open talks with Israel. Failure in such an attempt could be "very painful" for Husayn, he said.

As far as the Palestinians are concerned, the Egyptian diplomat added, no joint delegation of moderates who are not openly identified with the PLO will be formed until they are invited to the U.S. for this "dialogue" and the extent of the American commitment becomes clearer. Without a major American involvement, no moderate Arab country can endorse the peace process.

He rejected suggestions made in Israel that this "dialogue" is only a way to get the U.S. to recognize the PLO. "What will that give us?" he asked, adding that that alone would not bring Israel, the "main partner," into the process of negotiating with the delegation.

The "facts of the matter," he stressed, are that Israel is a "main partner" and that no negotiations are possible without the PLO which would have a veto over the composition of the delegation and whatever it talks about with Israel. Egypt, he said, is doing its part by encouraging the moderate Palestinians. Basyuni said he has had several meetings with moderate West Bank leaders such as Rashad al-Shawwa, the deposed mayor of Gaza, Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj and Hikmat al-Masri of Nabulus. As a matter of policy, he added, he does not meet with extremists such as Bassam al-Shak'ah.

Basyuni continually stressed the importance of the Tabah issue for the Egyptians. He said it is a source of ongoing "wonder" to the Egyptians why Israel, if it is sure of its claim to the tiny strip of land south of Elat, does not agree to arbitration. Egypt, he said, would welcome and honour any result of such arbitration.

Various Bilateral Projects To Be Proposed to Egypt

TA241024 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 24 Apr 85 pp 1, 3

[Report by Gad Becker]

[Text] During discussions in Jerusalem on thawing relations with Egypt, it was recently decided that Israel will not make do with general declarations about improving relations, but will demand that detailed obligations be included in the "package deal" to be discussed at the Peres-Mubarak summit.

The following subjects are among the ideas currently being considered:

— Trade: Israel would extend credit to Egypt and, in turn, Israel would be allowed to make substantial purchases of Egyptian goods, such as oil. The Egyptians would be able to buy Israeli products with this credit. Their failure to make use of these rights would involve a financial loss.

— Tourism: The volume of Israeli and foreign tourists visiting Egypt from Israel constitutes approximately a fifth of the total number of tourists to that country. Israel is therefore considering demanding that Egypt also operate tourist packages that would include visits to both countries.

— Joint projects: Egypt is soon to begin exporting gas to Europe. This is very costly because of transportation difficulties. Jerusalem will propose laying a gas pipeline between Israel and Egypt, and Israel would buy Egyptian gas, part of which would be paid for in goods, such as fertilizers and other agricultural products. Another idea that was raised was the establishment of a joint fund between Israel, Egypt, the United States, and France, which would finance and encourage projects based on cooperation between Israel and Egypt.

Political sources pointed out that the Egyptians have recently been declaring their basic willingness to make a number of practical moves to thaw the cool relations.

The Israeli team headed by the directors general of the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry, is preparing the proposals for improving bilateral relations, and will complete its task by the beginning of next week. The team will present the prime minister and the vice prime minister with a detailed document, which will include all the disputed issues and proposals on how to solve them in the framework of a summit between the two heads of state.

ALGERIA

President Bendjedid Returns From U.S. Visit

LD231626 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Excerpt] President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the party, returned home this morning at 1130 hours accompanied by his wife and the accompanying delegation after the conclusion of his state visit to the United States of America which lasted 5 days.

Algiers Reports Visit

LD231733 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] FLN Secretary General and President Chadli Bendjedid yesterday ended his official visit to the United States which consisted of a week of intensive activity, and left San Francisco yesterday afternoon on his way back home. The program of the president's visit was intensive. He held a series of talks with President Reagan and Vice President George Bush and a number of secretaries and members of the Senate and House of Representatives as well as the president of the World Bank. The visit provided an opportunity for the exchange of views on current bilateral and international political and economic matters.

The visit was characterized by President Bendjedid's inspection of a number of scientific and agricultural achievements in Los Angeles and San Francisco in California and the American success in the fields of irrigation and agriculture and the sophisticated technologies used in improving and increasing production.

President Bendjedid was met in San Francisco by a warm welcome reflecting the good name Algeria enjoys in all world countries. And observers believe that the visit has helped to pull down the wall that existed between the two countries and that the preliminary lines for a dialogue between Algeria and America have been drawn based on seriousness and frankness.

With regard to the Western Saharan problem, it transpired as a result of the visit that Washington might embark on a more balanced action in the future asserting its intention to exclude any attempt at a military solution of this problem, and its belief that the people of the Sahara should be allowed to determine their fate in complete freedom.

The visit has shown that there is divergence of views between the two sides on a number of issues particularly the Middle East question: Algeria has affirmed the right of the PLO, the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestine people to participate in any efforts for a just and lasting solution of this problem.

With regard to bilateral relations, there seemed to be a common desire for rectifying the trade balance between the two countries and the preparation of a list of the products and services which Algeria wishes to buy. The Algerian and American sides expressed their desire to improve the volume of trade between them. This will be tackled by a joint American-Algerian cooperation committee that has been formed for the purpose.

EL MOUDJAHID Hails Congressional Visit

PM241155 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 19-20 Apr 85 p 1

["N.M." dispatch: "Fruitful Discussions"]

[Text] Washington — In the view of those familiar with American political customs, the fact that a foreign head of state visiting the United States should be received in Congress and have long and direct talks there with the senators and members of the House of Representatives is unusual, not to say very rare. And it is primarily in this way that the meeting which President Chadli Bendjedid had Thursday with the American elected representatives was a prominent feature of the second day of his visit to the United States. It was a particularly important event since — although this meeting was scheduled to be held with a select group of people — all American political groups were strongly represented, especially by their main leaders in Congress, who demonstrated by their presence the importance they attached to the event.

Through their elected representatives, the senators and congressmen, it was thus the entire U.S. people who freely conversed with President Chadli Bendjedid, expressing the ideas and concerns of American opinion, but also, and above all, inquiring about what Algeria thinks and suggests with regard to various major issues and problems which at present shape the international situation. Without trying to give an exhaustive account of these lengthy talks — they lasted several hours — it is nonetheless possible to briefly highlight a few salient and significant aspects of their comprehensive and specific nature.

In the Senate and the House, the head of state's interlocutors were each anxious to stress first their great appreciation of the role played by Algeria in the world, and especially in the Arab world, in Africa, and in the Nonaligned Movement. Many of them believe and openly stated, that Algeria is a country which is open to dialogue, remarkably open to consultation, strictly concerned not to interfere in the internal affairs of others, and also a bastion of stability — an essential factor in peace and progress. This made them attach all the more importance to the opportunity for fruitful discussions likely to promote the mutual knowledge and understanding provided by the president's official visit, which some American deputies did not hesitate to describe as "historic." This is why many senators and members of the House, while stressing what they called "the deep sense of responsibility shown by Algeria on the world scene," did not fail to express the desire to strengthen bilateral relations and contacts.

But, in addition to these bilateral relations, the American people's elected representatives raised many aspects of the international situation in their questions to President Chadli Bendjedid, asking for details of the Algerian analyses and positions. These included, among other things, developments in the Maghreb region and our country's efforts to find a solution to the

Western Sahara conflict, the Middle East question, Africa, and the situation in Central America.

On each occasion the president of the Republic replied in a detailed and complete way, reaffirming our country's principles and recalling its practical actions, its concern to work constantly for peace, by eliminating the real causes of disputes and conflicts by means of negotiation, and its constant practice of the policy of good-neighborly relations and cooperation. The initiatives taken by Algeria at the regional level and the initial results obtained in building the Maghreb bear witness to this, as does its active support for peoples' right to self-determination, the essential basis for real peace.

In the same spirit, Algeria considers that the solution to the Middle East problem depends on respect for the Palestinian people's inalienable rights. In Central America our country supports — and it has already clearly stated this in public several times — the Contadora Group's efforts to solve the region's problems. In southern Africa racism and apartheid must be constantly fought and, there too, the African peoples' inalienable rights must become a reality, since this is the only way of establishing an era of justice and peace. In addition it should be mentioned that President Chadli Bendjedid's statements on Africa's critical situation, and his appeal for increased aid to the continent's peoples, met with a broad response and made a great impression on the U.S. congressmen.

Many of them said they were particularly satisfied after their meeting with the head of state. Such a meeting, they pointed out, will make a major contribution to mutual understanding, to clearing up ambiguities, and hence to promoting sincere and fruitful dialogue. This will benefit lasting peace and universal progress.

Foreign Affairs Minister Comments on U.S. Talks, PLO
JN200824 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 20 Apr 85 pp 1, 3

[From Lamis K. Andoni in Washington]

[Text] A peaceful settlement to the Middle East conflict could only be reached through the recognition of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the participation of the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people was the gist of the Algerian position as conveyed by Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to U.S. President Ronald Reagan, the Algerian foreign minister has told the *JORDAN TIMES*.

Ahmed Taleb Ibrahim told the *JORDAN TIMES* in an interview Thursday that during his visit to the U.S. Mr. Bendjedid reiterated that the Algerian position on peace in the Middle East "is based on the Arab peace plan endorsed at the Fes Arab summit in 1982." "Our position is stable and clear," Mr Ibrahimi said. "We cannot envisage any settlement without the realisation of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination and the right of the PLO to speak on their behalf as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and that was the position we conveyed to the American Administration," he added. Mr Ibrahimi explained that Algeria could not base its position on anything but on the Fes plan since "it has been the only Arab plan which enjoys total Arab support."

Asked whether the Algerian president had conveyed to the American Administration the Algerian position on other suggested peace initiatives, Mr Ibrahim said: "We do not believe that our role is to judge another suggested initiatives. Our role, as we view it, was to convey and explain a unified Arab position on the Palestinian question and the only position which all of the Arab states have agreed upon is reflected in the Fes peace plan," he added. "The Fes plan constitutes the minimum formula which could bring about a just settlement for the Palestinians and therefore we remain strongly committed to it," he said.

Mr. Bendjedid was the third Arab leader to visit Washington in the last few months. Saudi King Fahd and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, who visited the U.S. last February and March respectively, had pushed for an active American role in efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict. However, the U.S. Administration continued to maintain its staunch refusal to hold direct talks with the PLO or to include the organisation in any proposed peaceful settlement.

Mr. Ibrahimi declined to give a direct comment on whether the Algerians sensed any change in the American position saying it was "premature" to judge the results of the Bendjedid visit. He indicated that Algeria will continue to push for a balanced U.S. position on the Palestinian question.

American media had been speculating that the main objective of Mr Bendjedid's visit, from the Algerian joint of view, was to buy American arms and the U.S. Administration had declared for the first time that Algeria was actually eligible to purchase American arms. But Mr Ibrahimi said "We are not here to purchase weapons and this is not the primary goal of the visit. For Algeria, the visit has a purely political significance."

Mr. Ibrahimi explained that the visit aimed at strengthening ties with the U.S. and to open a dialogue with the U.S. Administration. "We believe that direct dialogue with the U.S. is of significant importance and this visit has helped start this dialogue," he said.

Algeria had severed relations with the U.S. following the 1967 Middle East war but restored ties in 1974. Though trade and commercial ties developed between the two countries, political relations remained lukewarm and direct dialogue on the high levels barely existed.

The Algerian foreign minister dismissed suggestions by the American media and political observers here noted that the improvement in American-Algerian relations indicated a major shift in Algerian political positions closer to the West and away from Third World and Arab causes which Algeria has always supported. "These are mere interpretations," he said. "Algeria remains committed to its declared political positions," he said.

Tunisia's Destourian Party, FLN Sign Communique

LD242336 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] The Tunisian party delegation today ended its visit to Algeria. This visit was crowned with the signing of a joint communique between the FLN Party and the Tunisian Destourian Socialist Party which highlighted the spirit of fraternity, openness, and mutual understanding and the deep study and the wide discussion of bilateral relations between the two parties and the comprehensive evaluation of cooperation between the two countries. And from the premise of the treaty of fraternity and concord the two parties agreed to set up a joint supreme committee at leadership level which will draw up comprehensive plans on the scope for developing the two countries, for realizing the aspirations of the two peoples, and for activating cooperation between the two countries in the various fields and following them up.

Concerning the situation in northwest Africa and the dangers it holds within it which hinder progress toward desired unity and threaten the stability and security in the region, the two parties renewed their adherence to the resolutions of the 19th OAU session which were approved by the United Nations General Assembly and which are capable of solving the problem. The communique also referred to the various international topical issues which concern the two countries, especially the issues of the liberation of people and their self-determination.

Deputy Chief of Staff Returns from USSR Visit

LD250716 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] The Algerian military delegation led by General Khaled Nazar, deputy chief of staff of the National People's Army, returned to Algiers after a several-day working visit to the Soviet Union.

LIBYA

Iranian Foreign Under Secretary Arrives 24 Apr

LD241937 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1903 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Apr (JANA) — Sheykh ol-Eslam, under secretary of the Iranian Foreign Ministry, arrived in Tripoli this evening at the head of a delegation on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

In a statement to JANA on arrival at Tripoli International Airport Sheykh ol-Eslam praised the development of relations between the two fraternal countries, saying that our relations with the Jamahiriyah have gone beyond friendship and lead to fraternity and complete unity. He added that it is necessary to exchange views with our brothers in the Jamahiriyah against all the imperialist plots being hatched against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Tripoli Commends Sudanese Revolution

LD231455 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Free peoples do not accept being represented by or having any instrument of government act on their behalf. Such governments remain crouched over their peoples forever unless these peoples rise to remove this nightmare. We have seen the tragedy of our Arab people in Sudan who have suffered immensely from the monolithic rule of Numayri and his gang, who robbed the Sudanese people of their wealth just to please their master, the United States, the leader of world imperialism, and reactionary Arab leaders, the agents of Zionism, those lax people who are earnestly working to end their cause.

Our Arab people in Sudan will put an end to their tragedy by closing their ranks, and will end their economic, social and political problems by seizing their wealth, authority and arms. These principles constitute the bases for the freedom of peoples who refuse to accept humiliation and disgrace.

We are confident that the 6 April revolution will instigate its people to assume power and to rule themselves by themselves through their own popular conferences and popular committees in order to destroy exploitation represented by the rotten bourgeois, which deprived them and imposed poverty on them, killing their sons one after another. Their great revolution will strike with an iron fist against anyone who had dominated them. The Sudanese people will purge their ranks of such traitorous people. The Sudanese people will take their place in the forefront of the free people possessing authority, wealth and arms. Our Arab Sudan will be a free and proud country.

U.S. Expresses 'Concern' at Rapprochement With Sudan

LD241544 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] An official at the U.S. State Department, who wished to remain anonymous, stated that the American Government has expressed its concern to the new Sudanese regime about what he called Libya's conduct. He meant by this the Arab Libyan-Sudanese rapprochement in the light of the new situation prevailing in Sudan. On the other hand, the American Government is trying to give the impression that it has and will have a role to play in Sudan's future.

Sudanese Socialist Leader Departs Tripoli For Home

LD251005 Tripoli JANA in English 0857 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Tripoli, Shaban 5, April 25, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY -- The secretary general of the Sudanese Socialist Popular Front --Revolutionary Committees Movement, 'Abdallah Zakariyah, left here last night en-route to Sudan after the triumph of the popular revolution which toppled the regime of quisling Numayri that ruled the Sudan over 16 years, through all means of repression.

Mr Zakariyah addressed the following cable to the leader of the revolution: As we are leaving the land of Jamahiriyah, the

forefront fortress of Arab steadfastness and international platform for resisting imperialism, Zionism, fascism and reaction, to return to the Sudan of April 6 revolution which has embraced the great Al Fatih revolution, we renew our pledge that we shall remain on the path of struggle, under your green flag, until the rise of the Socialist People's Arab Jamahiriyah from the Atlantic to the Gulf and until the green color is spread worldwide. The Sudanese people are ever grateful to you for your unlimited moral and material support for their struggle, which was crowned by the April 6th glorious popular revolution that toppled the agent fascist regime, to announce that popular revolution will spread and will dump all quislings into the dustbin of history forward we go, the revolutionary struggle continues.

MOROCCO

Government Statement Maps Out New Policies

LD230149 Rabat MAP in French 1000 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Rabat, 23 Apr (MAP) — Late Monday afternoon the house of representatives heard the government statement read by Minister of State Al-Hajj Mohamed Bahnini on behalf of Prime Minister Mr Mohamed Karim Lamrani.

The statement notes that the government action plan, "drawing its main inspiration from the program of the political parties participating in the government, is going to embrace the principal sectors of our national life (finance, economy, social, cultural, and administrative affairs), thus providing a platform of joint action for a recovery in the general situation and a reform of the structure determining our economic and social development."

On the diplomatic level the statement indicates that "the government, in accordance with the highest directives of his majesty the king, will spare no effort to stimulate diplomatic action by making known our options in the field of foreign policy" as "our options are aimed at strengthening the position and authenticity of our country which, throughout its long history, has been and remains a country of openness, coexistence, and tolerance."

"It is in this spirit,", the statement adds, "that his majesty the king concluded the African Arab treaty of union with Libya and proposed membership in the EEC to underline the profound overlap of our interests."

After stressing that King Hassan II works untiringly to build the unity of the Greater Maghreb, the statement notes that unfortunately the realization of this unity comes up against "systematic obstruction by those who are opposed to our territorial integrity." The prime minister stressed in this regard: "We reaffirm that our sovereignty is whole and indivisible. It covers the whole of the kingdom from Tangier to Lagouria and cannot be the subject of negotiations and still less of concessions..."

Paying glowing tribute to the Royal Armed Forces, the statement says that the government will take particular care over the fate of the members of the Royal Armed Forces and all the security forces which watch over the preservation of the territorial integrity of the Kingdom.

On the domestic front, the statement includes "a policy of regionalization founded on the principle of administrative decentralization." According to the statement, the balanced regionalization policy recommended by the government "should result in the creation of regions with their own institutions... and they will be responsible for running part of certain sectors which are still highly centralized today such as teaching, health, and youth affairs and sports."

As for national education, technical instruction, and vocational training, the statement indicates that 9-year compulsory basic education, followed by 3 years of secondary education, the general channels of which will have their rate of expansion gradually slowed down for the benefit of basic education, technical instruction, and vocational training, will be introduced and made general. On this subject "bridges will be established between general education and vocational training through an orientation at the end of the 6th year of education, at the beginning of secondary school for half the pupils who are continuing their education and at the end of secondary schooling for pupils not going on to higher education."

This reform will begin at the start of the 1985-86 school year, the statement adds and it points out that the private sector will be called on "to take part in education and the training of our young people." Two bills relating to the reorganization of private education and its investment code [as received] will shortly be submitted to the house of representatives, the statement indicates. On the subject of university studies, the government program provides for the establishment of a special status for university teaching and administrative staff.

The statement notes at the social level that "the main objective will remain the promotion of employment and the fight against unemployment... particular attention will be given to our fellow citizens working abroad to protect their gains in the host country as well as to meet their needs and those of their families in cultural and religious matters."

The government statement indicates furthermore that various actions will be pursued in the field of housing "in order to solve progressively the housing crisis through the building up of slum areas and the development of rural ones. Thus, the government program adds, a new urbanization policy will be drawn up and it will be brought under the authority of a special department created to this effect within the Ministry of the Interior in order to ensure perfect coordination between the administration and the elected councils...."

On the economic level, the statement announces that "accompanying measures such as revamped legislation and fiscal reform in particular should facilitate the action of economic representatives and motivate them to invest and also to encourage savers to put their savings in the employment sector which is a great user of manpower."

As for fiscal reform, the government statement indicates that it provides for the introduction of a value added tax, a general income tax, and a tax on companies. This will allow "our tax system to be made a real instrument of economic and social policy

by effecting desirable rationalization and modernization within it."

The statement indicates that it is fitting to envisage "a bold policy of denationalization and to return to the private sector everything that falls naturally under its purview and everything that may be more usefully, effectively, and profitably managed by the private sector...." The statement indicates on this subject: "Already the establishment of a government body for planning, coordination, and arbitration, the securing by contract of relations between the state and certain public enterprises, and the definition of management indicators may constitute the first axes of a reform in this sector."

Touching on culture, youth and sports, and information, the government program stresses that efforts will be made to give these sectors the means needed to allow them to play their role fully.

The program stresses on the other hand that "the action of the government also demands a rationalization of the work of the state organs with a view to making them more dynamic and to simplify administrative procedures in a general way. The government, the statement points out, is firmly determined to purge the administration of everything that ails it and to energetically combat immoral behavior such as favoritism and bad management which are threatening more and more the very foundations of the administration."

SUDAN

Political Ties To Be Resumed With Libya

EA241817 Khartoum SUNA in English 1748 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, April 24 (SUNA) — Sudan and Libya have agreed to resume political ties between the two countries and to reopen (?all) contacts following the ruptures they witnessed during several years, at the era of the defunct Numayri regime, it was confirmed here today. A report handed to General Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the TMC, by Staff Brigadier Fadlallah Burmah, who returned home today following a four day official visit to Tripoli, affirmed the visit has been fruitful and successful and that the viewpoints of the two countries have been identical during the talks. Burmah said the Libyan leader Al-Qadhdhafi has charged him to transmit his congratulations and good wishes to Sudanese people and to the TMC.

Chairman Receives Report

EA242021 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the TMC and commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, has received a detailed report on the results of the visit of a delegation of the TMC to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, which returned to Khartoum from Tripoli at noon today. The report contained all the facts of the discussions and agreements that took place during the delegation's visit.

Agreement was reached on restoring diplomatic relations between the two brotherly countries, opening the airline offices in the two countries, and opening all bridges to strengthen contacts between the two countries.

The official spokesman of the TMC stated that the visit was completely successful by all standards, and that Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi expressed his happiness at the stand of the Sudanese people and their leadership. He also expressed his readiness to offer any necessary aid to get Sudan out of its economic crisis.

Joint Statement Issued

EA242033 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] A statement was issued today on the resumption of brotherly relations between the Democratic Republic of Sudan and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The following is the text of the statement:

Based on the bonds of the pan-Arab affiliation of the two brotherly people in the Democratic Republic of Sudan and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and from their belief in Arab unity as an aim and destiny, and emphasizing the necessity of confronting all the imperialist and Zionist challenges and dangers which aim at the present and future of the Arab nation, the two sides have agreed to resume brotherly relations between the two countries and activate cooperation between them in various fields to serve the national and pan-Arab aspirations and aims.

Issued in the city of Tripoli on 22 April 1985

Flights to Libya to Resume

JN251000 Khartoum SUNA in English 0925 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, Shaban 5, April 25 (SUNA) — Sudan and Libya have agreed on restoration of diplomatic relations and resuming air flights between the two countries.

Two members of the TMC and the former Sudanese ambassador to Libya returned here yesterday from Libya after delivering a message from General Siwar al-Dhahab to Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on bilateral relations. Brig Fadlallah Burmah Nasir, Brig Faris 'Abdallah Husni and Ambassador 'Abd al-Majjid Bashir al-Ahmadi left here Sunday to Libya.

Upon arrival here yesterday, Brig Nasir said the visit to Libya was successful and fruitful and the viewpoints of the two countries were identical. He said the two countries have agreed on principle that the airlines of the two countries reopen their offices in Khartoum and Tripoli. He said concerned authorities in the two countries would finalize the procedure of reopening the offices. Relations between Sudan and Libya were severed some four years ago when former Sudanese President Numayri accused Libya of bombing the Chadian Embassy here. Brig Nasir said Colonel al-Qadhdhafi had given him a message of

greetings and good wishes to General Siwar al-Dhahab and the members of the TMC.

The following statement was released here yesterday on the resumption of relations:

In the light of the ties of nationalist belonging linking the two brotherly peoples in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Democratic Republic of Sudan, in the light of their belief in the destiny and objective of Arab unity, and in confirmation of the need to counter all imperialist and Zionist challenges and threats aimed against the present and future of the Arab nation [words indistinct] to resume fraternal relations between the two countries and to re-activate cooperation in all fields to serve nationalist and patriotic objectives and aspirations.

Meanwhile, the TMC spokesman said yesterday commenting on the issue that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi of Libya has expressed willingness to provide all sorts of assistance required to solve Sudan's economic crisis. The spokesman was commenting on the TMC delegation's visit to Libya which he described as completely successful. Delegation member Brig Fadlallah Burmah praised Colonel al-Qadhdhafi for his frankness and wisdom in tackling all issues of talks. He further praised the warm hospitality they were accorded in Tripoli. On the other hand the delegation of TMC to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya yesterday reported to the TMC Chairman Gen Siwar al-Dhahab on the outcome of its visit.

The delegation has reached with the Libyan authorities an agreement on restoration of diplomatic relations, reopening airline offices and opening all channels of communication between the two countries. The delegation called on Siwar al-Dhahab following the return from Tripoli yesterday.

TMC Envoy Says Libya Will Not Back Opposition

JN251109 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1039 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 25 Apr (SUNA) — Brigadier General Fadlallah Burmah, member of the TMC, affirmed that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah will not support any opposition force against Sudan.

In a statement today, he said that a delegation from the Jamahiriyah will visit the country at a later time in order to conduct the necessary arrangements for restoring normal relations with Sudan. He added that the council delegation which visited the Jamahiriyah this week held fruitful meetings with officials there at all levels. The delegation also met with the Sudanese community in Libya.

He indicated that the community expressed great enthusiasm and support for the uprising. Concluding his statement, he affirmed that the visit was successful and achieved its objectives.

Reportage on Chairman's Meetings, Interviews

Meets With Anyanya Delegation

JN231510 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1432 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Apr (SUNA) — The Southern Sudan Liberation Movement [Anyanya] has stressed its confidence that the TMC will stop bloodshed in southern Sudan in order to end the political crises that are threatening the situation in the country. This came in a memorandum an Anyanya delegation led by (Gabriel Fani Jack) delivered to General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, TMC chairman and commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, here this morning.

In its memorandum, the delegation congratulated Gen Siwar al-Dhahab and the People's Armed Forces for their bias toward the people, a fact that has been confirmed by the TMC's statements on the need to solve Sudan's problems peacefully and in an atmosphere of democracy, equality, freedom, and justice. This has prompted the movement to respond positively.

Regarding the current events in the country's Southern Region, the delegation affirmed that these events will destory all of Sudan. It also explained that all of the political crises in Sudan can be solved by establishing a federal government in southern Sudan and halting the implementation of Islamic law. Gen Siwar al-Dhahab affirmed to the delegation that the contents of the memorandum will be discussed by the TMC and the government.

Meets National Unionist Party Delegation

JN241517 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1442 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Apr (SUNA) — General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the TMC, received a delegation of the National Unionist Party this morning to discuss some major issues in the country. During the meeting he stressed the need to solve the problem of the south within a national framework and to call on all the patriotic politicians in both the north and the south to find an appropriate solution to this problem. He also called for holding meetings between the TMC members and the leaders of the political parties in order to discuss the country's major issues.

The members of the delegation also called for creating liberal democracy in the national information organs, and turning these organs into free platforms for the political forces to express their ideas. They also stressed the need to neutralize these organs and to prevent any threats to make them abandon their neutrality in dealing with the political forces.

The National Unionist Party delegation was composed of 'Ali Mahmud Hasanayn, 'Ali Abu Yasin, Abu 'Aqilah Yusuf, and Muhammad Ahmad 'Abbas.

Receives UK Parliamentarians

JN251540 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Apr (SUNA) — A British House of Commons delegation has praised Sudan's role in hosting more than

1.5 million refugees, despite the drought and shortage of materials which Sudan is facing. This came during a meeting today between General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the TMC and chairman of the Higher National Committee To Avert the Effects of Drought and Desertification, and the delegation which comprises (McFisher), who represents the Labour Party, and (Colin Moynihan), who represents the Conservative Party. Talks during the meeting dealt with drought, the future of southern Sudan, conducting democratic elections, and solving the country's economic problems.

Siwar al-Dhahab explained to the delegation the TMC's efforts to hold a conference to solve the problem of the south; another conference to solve the economic issues; and efforts to conduct elections on time in preparation for handing power over to the people.

His excellency dealt with Sudan's foreign policy and efforts to establish good relations with all countries, particularly the neighborly countries. He called for deepening cultural relations between Sudan and the United Kingdom, and for benefiting from scholarships there, especially in the fields of development, agriculture, and civilian and military training.

The British House of Commons delegation praised the explanation Siwar al-Dhahab presented on solving all economic issues and the problem in the south. The delegation pointed out that it will pay a field visit to the refugee camps in eastern Sudan in order to become acquainted with the refugees' situation and to urge the British people to offer assistance to Sudan.

Interviewed on South, Economy

JN231811 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1730 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Apr (SUNA) — The Abu Dhabi newspaper *AL-FAJR* held a lengthy interview with General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the TMC, here today. Gen Siwar al-Dhahab asserted the People's Armed Forces' bias toward the people in the 6 April uprising. He explained that the transitional government will pay attention to the economic issue and the problem of the south.

He pointed out that the problem of the South is one of the problems that exhausted the Sudanese economy. He said that the problem began before independence, and is being exacerbated every day. His excellency said that the transitional government will call for a conference to discuss the problem. All parties will participate in the conference in order to reach a solution that will satisfy all parties and maintain Sudan's unity and independence.

Gen Siwar al-Dhahab called on Arab investors to invest in Sudan, Since bureaucracy and economic confusion have disappeared forever. He asserted that there are many fields for investment and sufficient guarantees in Sudan.

His excellency addressed a message to the expatriates through *AL-FAJR*, thanking them for their support for the 6 April uprising, and urging them to give more support to their homeland. His excellency pointed out that injustice was inflicted on the expatriates through the injust treatment in the old era. He said that the transitional government will lay down sound foundations to guide expatriates' contributions to the Sudanese economy.

Comments on Press, Red Sea

GF250730 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0550 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25 Apr (WAKH) — General Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the TMC in Sudan, has stated that his country's relations with the Gulf countries will further flourish during the new era as this will be in the interest of the peoples.

In an interview published by the UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* today, he said that what links Sudan with the Gulf countries is common fate, cultural and educational heritage, and the presence of large Sudanese communities in these countries, who participate in the process of construction and development. He pointed out that this should be translated into practical steps and programs designed to serve the interests of all peoples.

Talking about the transitional period that followed the Army's seize of power in Sudan, he said: the Sudanese people will fully assume authority after the completion of this period through free, just, and organized elections. He added: The Military Council will ensure, during this very period, the freedom of parties and press so that every party or group will be able to express its views and platforms. The people consequently will choose their representatives in a clear and free manner.

General Siwar al-Dhahab then talked about the security of the Red Sea. He said: The security of the Red Sea concerns all the littoral countries. He emphasized that Sudan calls for attainment of security and stability in the region in addition to keeping away from axes and the disputes of the superpowers. He indicated that this is his country's view toward the security of the Red Sea.

He added that his country adheres to the policy of nonalignment, adopts a balanced policy toward the two superpowers, and observes good-neighborly relations with its neighbors. He went on to say that a senior Sudanese special envoy will shortly visit Ethiopia to meet with President Mengistu Haile Mariam within the framework of ameliorating relations with neighbors, respect for sovereignty, and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

TMC Decrees Reorganize Presidential Secretariat

LD241056 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] The TMC issued Decrees Nos 32 and 33 on organizing the Presidential General Secretariat. Following are the texts of the two decrees:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The TMC decrees: Decree No 32 of 1405 AH, 1985 AD, on organizing the Presidential General Secretariat, People's Palace.

In the name of God, the people and the Armed Forces: The TMC, after examining the measure of the committee authorized to revise the duties of the Presidential General Secretariat and in order to facilitate work during the transitional stage, and in accordance with the rulings of Statement No 80, the following decree is issued:

Name of the Decree and Its Commencement

1. This decree is called the Decree Organizing the Presidential General Secretariat and will be effective from the date of signing.

Revocation and Reduction

2. All departments and sections of the People's Palace Secretariat are abolished and the administrations of the Presidential Secretariat General will be reduced from 10 to 5 administrations, in the following manner:

A. Decrees and Followup Administration;
B. Legislation and Legal Affairs Administration;
C. General Administration for Political Affairs and Foreign Relations [as heard];
D. General Administration for Financial and Administrative Affairs;
E. General Administration for State Protocol.

3. Each administration will be headed by a director of administration who will exercise all the authorities which were exercised by the administration commissioner;
4. The sphere of authority of each administration will remain as it was before this reduction;
5. A secretary general and a deputy will be appointed to head the administrative body of the Presidential Secretariat;
6. The secretary general and the deputy will organize and arrange the sphere of authority of each administration and coordinate work among these administrations;
7. The secretary general will reorganize and rearrange each administration in consultation with the director of each administration.

Issued under my signature on 3 Shaban 1405 AH, corresponding to 23 April 1985.

[Signed] Lt Gen 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, Chairman of the TMC

The council issues Decree No 33 of 1405 AH appointing a secretary general, a deputy and directors of the Presidential General Secretariat.

After examining Decree No 32 on reorganizing the Presidential General Secretariat, the following appointments are made: 1. Those mentioned below will be appointed to the Presidential General Secretariat, each in the post stated by his name:

A. Major General, Air Force Navigation, Ahmad Idris Ahmad, secretary general;
B. Staff Brigadier General 'Abd al-Rahman Sa'id, deputy secretary general;
C. Brigadier General 'Abd al-Munim Zayn al-'Abidin Muhammad, assistant deputy and director of the General Administration of Decrees and Followup;
D. 'Abd al-Jalil Muhammad al-Hasan, assistant deputy [as heard];
E. Brigadier General, Solicitor, Ahmad Mahmud Hasan, director of the General Administration of Legislation and Legal Affairs;
F. Staff Colonol Haydar Babakr al-Musharrab, director of General Administration of Financial and Administrative affairs;
G. Mustafah 'Ali Arbab, acting director of the General Administration of Political and Economic Affairs [title as heard];
H. Nabil Murad, acting director of the General Administration of State Protocol.

2. All military men concerned with this decree will be on detached duty which will terminate at the end of the transitional period. The secretary general will consult the director of each administration on the appointment of their assistants.

Issued under my signature on the 3 Shaban 1405 AH, corresponding to 23 April 1985.

[Signed] Lt Gen 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, Chairman of the TMC and Commander in Chief of the People's Armed Forces

New Transitional Cabinet Sworn In 25 April

JN251147 Khartoum SUNA in English 1105 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, Shaban 5 Apr 25 (SUNA) — The 15-member transitional cabinet of Prime Minister al-Jazuli Daf'allah was sworn in before the TMC here today. In the oath the Cabinet pledged to perform sincerely their duties during the transitional period.

Prime Minister's Statement to AL-AYYAM Reported

JN231120 Khartoum SUNA in English 1040 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, Shaban 3, April 23 (SUNA) — Prime Minister Al-Jazuli Daf'allah has said that his cabinet will work seriously to carry out the popular demand on the extradiction of the former dictator Numayri to stand trial. In statement to the daily *AL-AYYAM* after the formation of the 15-member cabinet last night Daf'allah voiced the idea that the dissolved state security organ will no longer pose any threat to the exercise of democratic life in the country.

Daf'allah underscored the necessity of neutralizing the information institutions during the transitional period and said it function under a national plan that will be charted by a high national information committee. Daf'allah admitted that the status of newspapers which had been nationalized during the defunct era will subject to reconsideration by the said information committee.

On the constitution Daf'allah said special committee will revise the Constitution of 1956 amendment 1964 to fill gaps in it.

The cabinet will work independently from the political parties and will rid the country from odious policies and other legacy of the defunct May regime, he said. The government will do its best in bearing the wrong practices of the former regime and acquainting the world opinion with the pros of dictator Numayri, he said. [Sentence as received]

Turning to the southern problem Daf'allah disclosed the government is eager to hold immediate contact with Col John Garang to furnish him on the facts of the popular revolt that put an end to dictator Numayri's era. We want to commence democratic dialogue with him based on the pillar of democracy, he said. In his statement Daf'allah urged the masses to be conscious and thwart the ploys from those conspirators and to protect the revolution and the national unity.

Prime Minister Meets With Transitional Council

JN241127 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1040 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Apr (SUNA) — The official spokesman for the TMC has stated that the council received Prime Minister Dr Al-Jazuli Daf'allah yesterday evening. During the session, General Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab welcomed Dr Daf'allah and praised his national historic role during the revolution. The spokesman added that Dr Al-Jazuli Daf'allah praised the heroic role played by the People's Armed Forces and their support of the people's revolution.

The prime minister briefed the council on the present tasks, and expressed hope in safeguarding the revolution on the domestic and external fronts by remedying the gaps in the Constitution in a manner that would suit the requirements of the homeland and the citizens. He also expressed hope that joint efforts will be carried out quickly to settle the southern problem and direct Sudan's foreign policy to serve its economic and social causes.

Students Union Congratulates New Prime Minister

JN241129 Khartoum SUNA in English 1045 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, Apr 24 (SUNA) — The Sudanese Students Union on Tuesday commended the new Prime Minister Dr Al-Jazuli Daf'allah for assuming the new post entrusted upon him by the Sudanese people. In a communique issued yesterday the union urged for the need to try the corrupt and traitors and the repeal of all freedom restricting laws besides stressing on freedom of expression, press, judiciary and the solution of the southern problem.

SUNA Carries New Foreign Minister's Biography

JN231502 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1428 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Apr (SUNA) — Ibrahim Taha Ayyub: born 20 October 1940 in Wadi Halfa; married; two sons, one daughter; graduate of the Faculty of Arts, Khartoum University in 1964; M.A., Johns Hopkins University, United States in 1976; joined the Foreign Ministry in 1965; 1966-1969, worked as third secretary in Baghdad and Amman; 1969-1971, second secretary in Addis Ababa; 1971-1973, consul general in Asmara; 1974-1975, director of the African desk at the Foreign Ministry in Khartoum; 1976, Sudanese ambassador to Ethiopia; 1977-1978, director of the Political Affairs Department at the Foreign Ministry; 1979-1982, Sudanese ambassador to India, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka, residing in New Delhi; 1983, Sudanese ambassador to Kenya, until he was appointed foreign minister according to the transitional government's cabinet formation yesterday.

TMC Official on Revamping SUNA, Policy Line

LD241903 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Apr (SUNA) — The staff of the SUDANESE NEWS AGENCY (SUNA) held a plenary meeting here today under the chairmanship of its acting director general, Husni Hawwash, and in the presence of Staff Brigadier General 'Ali Sulayman, member of the Higher Committee for Information of the TMC.

An extensive discussion took place during the meeting on the requirements of the current stage which constitutes a serious watershed in the life of the Sudanese citizens and the information media which have suffered immensely from the restriction of freedom and the muzzling of their mouths for the past 16 years.

The conferees agreed on the need to consolidate the independence of the agency as an important and sensitive information medium during the transitional and future periods so that it will not be affected by political and party tendencies and will maintain the national line which serves the national interests of the country. They also agreed on the need to purge SUNA from those who spread political and administrative corruption in it. The committee running the agency has affirmed the need to study the question of the purge and the adoption of the necessary measures in this regard.

Democratic Union Party Leader Supports Regime

JN241202 Khartoum SUNA in English 1055 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum Apr 24 (SUNA) — The Unionist Democratic Party had voiced its support to the TMC and the newly formed transitional government to achieve the duties delegated to them.

In a press statement to SUNA the party's Secretary-General Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi denied the existence of any obstacles confronting the safeguarding of the popular upheaval. The people's demands are the trial of the deposed president and the pillars of the defunct regime he said. He added that the party's program in the framework of trade unions was to provide the free neutral climate for the TMC and the transitional government to realize their duties. Al-Hindi said that the party's general congress would be convened next August and would discuss the Party's present, past and future programmes.

On the integration between Egypt and Sudan, he said the integration had lacked popular support and should be subject to new studies. He added the Party had had links with the southern rebels and that dialogue with them should be continued in order to reach peaceful solution to the problem.

CP Leader Reappears After 14 Years in Hiding

LD241916 Khartoum SUNA in English 1804 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Shaban 4, April 24 (SUNA) — Muhammad Ibrahim Nujud, the secretary general of the Sudanese Communist Party, showed up after a 14-years of hiding in the country. An official source in the Central Committee of the Sudanese Communist Party said Nujud appearance was linked to the holding of the Central Committee session last week to discuss the development of the political situation in the country.

Nujud had been working clandestinely after the banning of the Communist Party by dictator Numayri after 1961 [as received] coup against Numayri government after (?the foiling) of the coup Numayri sentenced the senior party officials to death including the late secretary general 'Abd al-Khalid Mahgub.

Opposition Movement Leader Returns From Libya

JN251035 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1017 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 25 Apr (SUNA) — 'Abdallah Zakariyah, leader of the Popular Revolutionary Committees Movement, returned to the homeland from Libya yesterday evening. The leader of the movement was accompanied by the first group of his movement's armed forces, which have been struggling against the defunct regime of the dictator Numayri.

Southern Region Officials Sworn In 22 Apr

JN231003 Khartoum SUNA in English 0917 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, Shaban 3, April 23 (SUNA) — The chairman and assistant chairman of the Transitional High Executive Council for the Southern Region were sworn in yesterday before the chairman of the TMC, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab. Recently appointed deputy governors and provincial commissioners are also sworn in yesterday.

Following the oath-taking ceremony, Siwar al-Dhahab expressed willingness of the TMC to cooperate with them for solving all the problems they face. He described as critical the current stage since it would witness general elections, a matter that necessitates full neutrality.

TMC Members Visit Equatoria, Give Briefing on Coup

EA242007 Juba Domestic Service in English 1415 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] A delegation of the members of the TMC Led by Major General James Loro and membership of Major General PSC [expansion unknown] 'Uthman al-'Amin al-Sayyid and Brigadier PSC Faris 'Abdallah Husni this morning, at Equatoria Military Area Headquarters: enlightened the People's Armed Forces and other organized forces on the reasons that led to the military seizing of power. They also talked about the uprising and the stand of the Armed Forces siding with the people in laying the foundation of democracy in the country.

The delegation conveyed to the organized forces the greetings from the commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces and chairman of the TMC, 1st Lieutenant General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab. Maj Gen PSC al-Sayyid said it is time to put to the world that Sudan was a civilized nation and wants to take democracy as a means to solve its problems. He said the national powers are going on as a way of achieving the need for democracy as needed by the national interests of the people.

Maj Gen PSC al-Sayyid: Only those citizens (?distanced) from the national power could be considered as committing treason. He said that the present period goals are security, alleviation of the burden on the masses, the renovation of the national economy and devising the best way of handing power to the masses.

He thanked the Saudi Arabian Kingdom under King Fahd in availing fuel to the Sudan for a period of 3 months. He said delegates would be sent to Arab and African countries to improve relations.

On the southern regions Maj Gen PSC al-Sayyid said that national unity would be consolidated and dialogue is under way with John Garang and other southern leading personalities so as to stop the fighting. He said after overthrow of the May system he described the national congress as comprising parties, unions and corporations as democratic and it has had frequent contact with the TMC with the aim of achieving democracy. [Sentence as heard]

Maj Gen PSC al-Sayyid denounced John Garang's allegation that the new government was May two or the government of the generals. He said April revolution came to correct the mistakes of the May revolution. On the fight of John Garang, he questioned why the fight concentrates in south Sudan if the movement wants to liberate the country. He said the revolution wants prosperity to all citizens in the present phase and said unity of efforts is important to the masses and to the People's Armed Forces. He also talked about the steps taken to secure the independence of the judiciary, the members of the TMC also answered questions given to them by the soldiers.

Member of the TMC Maj Gen PSC 'Uthman al-'Amin al-Sayyid has announced that hte organized forces will be given two ministries in the transitional government. The ministries are of defense and interior. He said during this period the organized forces will be (?decentralized) and the members oif the of the organized forces who were dismissed by the former regime will be reinstated.

256 Detainees To Be Released in Kassala

JN251001 Khartoum SUNA in English 0940 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Kassala, Shaban 5, April 25 (SUNA) — Member of the Transitional Military Council (TMC) Gen (Navy) Yusuf Husayn agreed, during a recent visit to Kassala town, Eastern Region, to the release of some 256 inmates at the regions various prisons on the occasion of the popular uprising.

SPLA Radio: Chairman's Call for Talks 'Unilateral'

EA231416 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] A new government of 15 ministers under Premier Dr Al-Jazuli Daf'allah was announced last night. According to the ruling military council headed by General Siwar al-Dhahab, the prime minister and his ministers are to be under the supervision of the so-called Interim Military Council, which has both legislative as well as administrative powers. Voice of America's service announced last night that General Siwar al-Dhahab had called on the SPLA-SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Army-Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] leader, Colonel Dr John Garang, to meet him to negotiate the end of what Siwar al-Dhahab called the problem of the southern Sudan.

Commenting on Siwar al-Dhahab's statement, a spokesman for SPLA-SPLM said that the call by the military ruler in Khartoum is unilateral. It is similar to the one-sided cease-fire declared last March by the overthrown president Numayri. Siwar al-Dhahab's call has nothing to do with SPLA-SPLM and its leader, because the military have refused to hand power to a civilian administration.

Moreover, the spokesman said, Siwar al-Dhahab and his government are not on the same political wavelength. They think we are fighting for solving the problems of the southern Sudan only. We are fighting to solve all the national problems in the east, west, south, and north. They can read our manifesto for our program and policies, the spokesman concluded.

SPLA Radio: Rebels Vow To Carry War To North

EA241459 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Col Dr John Garang de Mabior, commander in chief of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army [SPLA] and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement [SPLM], has received an open letter from Major Al-Tahir (Byor) Abdullah Jak, in which he addressed himself to the stand of the SPLA-SPLM in the light of the current political developments in our country.

In his letter, Maj al-Tahir said that the decision of the SPLA High Command to observe a 7-day cease-fire on his part has underlined the truly national character of the SPLA despite the fact that the cease-fire had affected the overall strategy of the movement's liberation war by delaying the process of liberation by 7 days. Maj al-Tahir went on to say that the SPLA was fighting for genuine peace and the dismantling of the present minority clique system so as to pave the way to the effective participation of all the Sudanese in building the new Sudan, a free socialist Sudan in which every citizen would strive for abundance in production and equity in distribution. From this standpoint Maj al-tahir called upon the junior officers, NCO's and men of the Sudanese Armed forces to join the ranks of the SPLA and work together with its forces towards the overthrow of the Khartoum gang of generals. Maj al-Tahir concluded by reaffirming the determination of SPLA forces to continue the armed struggle and carry it into war zone No 2, which is the northern part of the Sudan, under the banner of the SPLA until victory is achieved.

SPLA Radio: Released Prisoners Express Gratitude

EA241500 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] The recent decision by the Sudanese People's Liberation Army High Command, to set free some prisoners of war in its custody, as a show of solidarity with the massive uprising of 6th April which swept Numayri out of power, has evoked much praise and gratitude from the released prisoners of war themselves besides a large number of citizens. Our correspondent at the SPLA-SPLM HQ told us that 'Izz al-Din al-Sharif, one of the captives released and who had earlier expressed with admiration [as received] of the fighting spirit of SPLA Forces, was so profoundly moved by the humanitarian gesture of the release that he told our correspondent that he believed Dr John was the true leader of the people.

Garang Sees 'Prospect' of People's Government

EA241506 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] In another development and in a statement to Radio SPLA, the Commander in Chief of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army [SPLA] and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement [SPLM], Col Dr John Garang de Mabior, blamed the resumption of war in the southern part of the country on the generals in Khartoum, who have refused to hand over power to the people.

Col Dr John also held responsible Siwar al-Dhahab and his military council for the continued drain of the national economy by the enormous military expenditure, which amounts to 3 million Sudanese pounds a day. The economy of the country will not be saved, because the flow of oil and water that is necessary to revitalize it will not take place due to the war now going on in the south and for which the generals are solely responsible, Doctor John added.

However, Col Dr John went on to say that since the negotiations currently under way between the SPLA and the junior officers, NCO's and men of the Sudanese Armed Forces are positive, there are still reasonably good prospects for the eventual formation of a people's government within the context of a united socialist Sudan through the alliance of the SPLA, the junior revolutionary officers of the Armed Forces, the professional associations and the Trade Unions.

SPLA Radio Denies Talk of 'Negotiations' With Regime

EA241759 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 24 Apr 85

[From the "With the Battalions" program]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots, we now all know very well that what took place in our country on 6 April 1985 was not a coup, as some

uninformed persons may be asked to believe, but was in actual fact prearranged drama. The actors of course were Siwar al-Dhahab, the transferee of power, and Numayri himself, in addition to a foreign power that we need not name but which we should find no difficulty in identifying.

What then are the practical implications for our struggle? These are obvious. The system of the oppressive and exploitative minority has remained intact. The only change has been the replacement of Numayri by his ex-minister of defense who, as a moderate pro-Western, has the same credentials as Numayri but with the additional asset of being a new man who might be given a chance to try his luck at the reins of power.

Compatriots, do not be deceived by all this talk of negotiations by the system with the SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army]. All what they say about how vitally important it is to reach a kind of settlement with the SPLA-SPLM, [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement], although entirely true — because we do and will always control the destiny of the Sudan — is in part calculated to deceive you into relaxing your vigilance such that you are caught off guard.

It is true that the SPLA-SPLM through your gallant efforts has paralyzed the country to a considerable extent and unseated the dictator Numayri although ironically installing another in his place. his new dictator is going to pursue the regime's war of aggression against the people's revolution with even greater ferocity than his predecessor.

Because however costly the war may be there are quarters hostile to the people who would be only too obliging to meet the financial burdens. In actual fact that is already taking place. So when the regime starts talking of cessation of hostilities or unilateral cease-fires always bear in mind that this is mere deception. The Jokau episode when Numayri declared a cease-fire and then sent ill-fated mission of (El Bala) to retake Jokau is still fresh in our memory. When the system talks peace it actually means war.

Compatriots, we who have taken upon ourselves the great honor and privilege of spearheading the just struggle of our downtrodden masses for a better life, know very well who our friends are and who our foes are. The painful truth is that the very soldiers in the enemy trench who train their weapons on us when we move to liberate a particular area are indeed friends and not enemies. We are also now aware that they are the ones with whom the SPLA-SPLM seeks a dialogue. These soldiers, who are brothers, have been pitted against us by our real enemies.

Members of the successive clique regimes in Khartoum are those enemies. The soldiers who resist us are our own brothers who are now beginning to realize that the objectives we are fighting for are the very objectives they themselves should be fighting for. They are beginning to understand that the enemy we fight is an enemy common to both of us. The junior patriotic and revolutionary officers in the Sudanese Armed Forces are now moving farther and farther away from the bourgeoisiefied [as heard] of the generals and other senior officers, whose lifestyles against the background of the people's misery and deprivation is extremely shocking to say the least. These officers, NCO's, and men of the Sudanese Armed Forces will eventually join the side of the people and it is our duty to encourage them to do so.

Under this (?set) consideration, the commander in chief of our revolutionary army, Colonel Dr John Garang, reminded you lately to treat POW's as well as our resources can permit, because our revolution — and that is the people's revolution — belongs to them as much as it belongs to us and every other Sudanese citizen who believes in it, and it is only for us to make them see that.

Fellow compatriots, another issue worth discussing is economy in the use of ammunition. This is extremely important to us; to be efficient fighters we must strictly observe good fire discipline. This means we should avoid opening fire without instructions and hold our fire as soon as we are ordered to do so. An efficient fighter is not he who fires the most rounds, but he who scores the most hits. We should always try to make every bullet count, because in that way best use will have been made of our ammunition. An enemy soldier is not frightened by the hail of bullets whizzing past his ears and over his head, but rather what scares him is the burst of intermittent gunfire or single shots that pass so dangerously close to him and at times find the target.

TUNISIA

Ambassador to Libya Briefs President Bourguiba

LD241542 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1100 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Carthage, 24 Apr (TAP) — President Habib Bourguiba this morning received at the Republic Palace in Carthage Mr Mohamed Jenifane, the general commissioner of the Tunisian Republic to the Libyan Jamahiriyah in the presence of Mohamed Mzali, the prime minister and minister of interior, and Beji Caid Essebsi, the foreign affairs minister.

Tunisian-Libyan relations, in the light of the report given to the head of state by Mr Mohamed Jenifane, were reviewed during the audience. His excellency the president stressed the need to work for the development and the consolidation of these relations in all fields in the interest of the two fraternal countries.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR Condemns Rabat Military Attaches' Tour

LD242235 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Today the SDAR Government and the Polisario strongly condemned the recent visit to the occupied Saharan territories by military attaches to some embassies accredited to Rabat. The statement issued today by the SDAR Ministry of Information in the liberated territories said that such a visit constitutes a flagrant violation of the resolutions of all the international organizations which do not recognize any sovereignty of aggressor Morocco on the soil of the Western Sahara. The communique explains that this visit, in addition to being a challenge to the will of the international community, is considered at the same time an encouragement for the policy of intransigence and military

escalation pursued by the Moroccan Government which rejects the OAU peace plan for the Western Sahara.

The communique confirms that the Saharan Government and the Polisario will not accept the violation of the territorial integrity of our soil and it also confirms once again that the Saharan people are not responsible for the consequences of the violation of their country's sovereignty.

EFE: Polisario Issues 11-16 Apr Military Report

PA211431 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1332 GMT 21 Apr 85

[Text] Algiers, 21 Apr (EFE) — The Polisario Front has reported that its combat units killed 42 Moroccan troops and wounded 55 others during operations last week in Western Sahara.

According to the Saharan communique, between 11 and 16 April the Polisario attacked many positions on the defensive "walls" constructed by Morocco in the former Spanish colony. The positions attacked have been identified as Fadret, which was the object of three harassment attacks, Buhanda, Argub, Delua, and Graret El Kercha.

Meanwhile, the Algerian press has criticized the presence in Western Sahara of a group of military attaches of embassies acredited in Rabat, who arrived following invitations by the Moroccan authorities. An editorial in the government daily *AL-SHA'AB*,(THE PEOPLE), titled "The Need To Be Neutral," criticized the presence of the military attaches and recalled that it is the third time they have visited Western Sahara since 1980. The newspaper stresses that the only solution to the conflict is the application of OAU Resolution No 104, which provides for direct negotiations between Morocco and the Polisario.

ETHIOPIA

Rebel Forces Claim 74 Troops Killed, Wounded

LD250850 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Gonder: The active fighters of the Tigre People's Liberation Front [TPLF] attacked an enemy force stationed at Dogoma, 50 km north of Lake Tana in Gonder region. The fighters of the TPLF, in their victorious mission, killed 34 Dergue soldiers, wounded 25 others and captured 15 soldiers, and an assortment of 64 weapons, two radio communication sets and other important items.

Meanwhile, other units of the TPLF fighters ambushed and attacked a reinforcement force mobilized from Gonder, which was forced to retreat after losing 15 soldiers as dead or wounded.

KENYA

Moi Announces Compulsory Religious Education

EA250720 Dakar PANA in English 1426 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Nairobi, 24 April (KNA/PANA) — Religious education will be compulsory in Kenyan schools, President Daniel arap Moi has announced. The Kenyan leader said that with effect from 1986, the teaching of religion will be incorporated in the present syllabus. He said it would be naive for Kenya to have religious studies "as an option."

The Christian community have hailed President Moi for his recent directive on the issue. The secretary-general of the Kenya Catholic Secretariat, on behalf of the Catholic bishops, thanked the president for making religious studies a compulsory subject in schools. He said, we shall continue to work together in educating our children to have commitment to faith.

Briefs

Outgoing Soviet Envoy — Nairobi 23rd Apr — The minister for foreign affairs Mr Elijah Mwangale said in his office today that the two superpowers should always consider the views and ideas of the rest of the world whenever they make decisions on disarmament. Mr Mwangale said this when he received the ambassador of the USSR to Kenya Mr Aleksandr Chikvaidze who came to bid him farewell at the completion of his tour of duty. On relations between Kenya and the USSR, the miister commended the continued ties of friendship that exists between the two countries and emphasized on a further improvement in some fields such as the increase in the volume of trade and more scholarships for Kenyan students. [Excerpt] [*Nairobi KNA in English 1555 GMT 23 Apr 85 EA*]

BURKINA FASO

Sankara Receives Togolese Armed Forces Chief

AB242011 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] The head of state, Comrade Captain Thomas Sankara, has received late this morning, Major General Memel, the Togolese Armed Forces chief of staff. In his statement to the press, Major General Memel said that he has delivered a special message from the Togolese head of state to his Burkinabe counterpart. He added that he has also delivered the friendly greetings of General Eyadema to Captain Sankara. In another development, Major General Memel said that his country was ready to cooperate in all fields with Burkina Faso.

FRG Air Force Commander Talks With Sankara

AB241814 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council for the Revolution and president of Faso, last night at the Presidency met with General Eberhard Eimler, commander of the FRG Air Force, who arrived in Ouagadougou yesterday at the invitation of the Burkina authorities.

Gen Eberhard Eimler was received for about 40 minutes in the presence of Major Jean-Baptiste Lingani, commander in chief of the High Command of the National Armed Forces, and the FRG ambassador to Burkina. At the end of the audience Gen Eimler told reporters that he had come to assess the military cooperation between our two countries:

[Begin Eimler recording in German fading into French translation] I want to have first-hand knowledge about how our cooperation in the military field functions and perhaps to see also how future cooperation can be improved.

[Unidentified reporter] General, should we expect a strengthening of cooperation between our two armies?

[Eimler] It will depend, first of all, on the views of the leaders of your country, Burkina Faso. But I think we can no doubt find other fields of cooperation.

[Reporter] What are these fields of cooperation?

[Eimler] There is the possibility of increasing cooperation in the field of equipment. As I have already said, my government has decided to increase assistance in military equipment. I can also see that in the field of military training, we can find new possibilities. [end recording]

GAMBIA

Trial Set for Opposition Member of Parliament

AB240825 Paris AFP in English 0737 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Banjul, April 24 (AFP) — Member of Parliament (MP) Fode Makalo of Gambia's opposition National Convention Party (NCP) will be put on trial Thursday, officials said here Tuesday night. He is accused of instigating NCP militants at a party meeting to sack houses of the ruling People's Progressive Party (PPP) in the Kerewan District of northern Gambia.

Mr Makalo, who is also an MP of the Senegalese-Gambian Confederation, was arrested last Friday for organizing an unauthorized meeting, then released on bail.

SENEGAL

Government Denies Opposition Party Accusations

AB241644 Paris AFP in French 1543 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Dakar, 24 Apr (AFP) — The Senegalese Government strongly reacted today to the campaign launched for 3 months now by the leader of the main opposition party, Mr Abdoulaye Wade. The government specifically denounced the "campaign of disinformation launched by the leader of the Senegalese Democratic Party, PDS, and aimed to serve contemptible political goals."

In an article published today by the government daily *LE SOLEIL*, Djibo Ka, the Senegalese minister of information, underlined the fact that the leader of the PDS, "taking advantage of liberties granted him by our democratic regime and abusing those rights, discloses false statements to the public and adopts an attitude which could discredit the nation." Mr Ka especially contested the figures given by Mr Wade to illustrate the "wreckage" of the Senegalese economy: for example, the country's external debt does not amount to 1,000 billion CFA francs (Fr 20 billion), the equivalent of the gross national product, but to 630 billion CFA francs, that is Fr 12.6 billion, the government spokesman said. He also denied that the state has guaranteed important sums of money to private enterprises.

The government spokesman also condemned the "show of strength" which the PDS leader wants to display in the country and said "it was a sign of unlimited power, making his perspectives illusionary because Senegal likes measure and balance, coherence and the spirit of truth."

This sharp retort by the minister of information was made on the same day that 11 PDS militants arrested on 16 April 1985 at a demonstration, were due to be tried. It will be recalled that the PDS leader recently launched an appeal to all Senegalese to go to the mosques and churches in great numbers on Tuesday mornings as a sign of protest against the government. When PDS militants found the doors of one of the main mosques in the center of Dakar closed, they began saying their prayers in the street before 11 of them were arrested.

The PDS, which is the main party out of the 15 legal [opposition] parties in Senegal, has 8 seats at the National Assembly; the ruling Socialist Party the ruling Socialist Party has 111 seats. During its last national convention, the PDS, which boycotts assembly debates, launched an appeal for the creation of a "transitional national union government," to prepare for "free and democratic elections."

Diouf Holds Talks With Ivorian Ministers

AB242153 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] President Abdou Diouf received the Ivorian ministers of foreign affairs and finance today. At the end of the audience, Simeon Ake, the Ivorian minister of foreign affairs, talked to reporters of the national radio:

[Begin recording] We thanked the president of the republic for receiving the minister of finance and myself this morning. In doing so, he enabled us to fulfill the mission we were assigned by President Houphouet-Boigny. Our discussions centered on the views shared by the two heads of state, and we then discussed bilateral issues, the relations existing between our two countries, bilateral cooperation [passage indistinct]. [end recording]

TOGO

Final Communique on Diouf Visit Issued

AB241144 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Final communique issued at the end of visit by Abdou Diouf, Senegalese head of state, to Togo — in Lama Kara on 23 April]

[Text] At the invitation of General Eyadema, founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People [RPT] and president of the Republic of Togo, His Excellency Abdou Diouf, president of the Republic of Senegal, accompanied by his wife and a high-level delegation, paid an official visit to the Republic of Togo from 20 to 23 April 1985. During his stay in Togo, President Diouf went to the Kloto region where he visited important economic, cultural, and social facilities, namely the National Society for the Development of Palm Tree Plantations and Palm Oil Resources, Sonaph, the Institute of Coffee and Cocoa Research, IRCC, and the National Society for the Renewal and Development of Togolese Cocoa and Coffee Resorces, SRCC. He also went to Kara where he laid a wreath on the tomb of Mama Ndanida before going to the Sarakawa mausoleum for a moment of meditation.

These visits enabled President Abdou Diouf to discover and admire the results of the remarkable developmental efforts made by Togo under the leadership of Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, RPT founding chairman and president of the republic, to whom he expressed his warmest congratulations on the (?achievements) of the Togolese people and government in all fields.

For his part, Gen Eyadema paid resounding tribute to President Diouf and praised his determination in carrying out the nation-building effort aimed at ensuring the harmonious development of Senegal and safeguarding democracy, peace, and stability. The Togolese head of state also encouraged him to pursue the edification of the Senegambian Confederation. The two presidents held several rounds of private talks.

In addition to these talks, the two delegations held working sessions attended on the Senegalese side by Ibrahima Fall, minister of foreign affairs; Abdourahmane Toure, minister of trade; Moussa Diallo, deputy speaker of the National Assembly; His Excellency Saloum Kande, the Senegalese ambassador to Togo; [name indistinct], ambassador chief of protocol; Mrs Abiba Diallo, ambassador and director of political affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Samba M'bodj, diplomatic adviser to the president of the republic.

On the Togolese side were: Atsou Koffi Amegah, member of the RPT Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; Komlan Agbetiafa, member of the RPT Central Committee and minister of national education and scientific research; Ayssah Agbetra, member of the RPT Central Committee and minister of public health, social affairs, and women's affairs; Yao Bloua Agbo, member of the RPT Central Committee, minister of youth, sports, and culture; Yao Kunale Eklo, member of the RPT Central Committee and RPT administrative secretary.

During their discussions held in an atmosphere of friendship, frankness, and cordiality, Presidents Diouf and Eyadema made a broad exchange of views on the current developments at the bilateral, African, and international levels. In the field of bilateral relations, the two heads of state expressed satisfcation over the excellent ties between their countries and peoples. They agreed on the need to strengthen these ties in the political, social, and cultural fields. In this connection, a draft agreement was signed, creating a grand joint commission for cooperation between Senegal and Togo. Draft agreements on economic and technical cooperation, as well as cultural cooperation were also signed. Meanwhile, the two heads of state agreed to foster the exchange of visits and missions with the view to further promoting the permanent consultations between the two governments on matters of mutual interest.

Examining the political and economic situation in Africa and the world, the two presidents expressed satisfaction over their convergent views on these issues. They expressed their profound concern over the increasing number of hotbeds of tension in Africa which considerably hinders the continent's economic and social development and dangerously threatens the unity of Africa.

On the situation in Western Sahara, the two heads of state expressed their deep concern over the continued conflict which seriously hampers the efforts toward unity, consultations, and cooperation in the subregion. They held the view that there is no way of solving the problem other than negotiations as called for in Resolution 104 of the 19th OAU summit.

On the situation in Chad, President Abdou Diouf and Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema regretted the persistent conflict which has aggravated the Chadian people for so many years. In this connection, they expressed happiness over the impulse given by the

Brazzaville conference and [words indistinct] joint actions within the OAU with a view to bringing about national reconciliation.

Concerning the situation in South Africa, the two heads of state once again castigated the obnoxious policy of apartheid pursued by the racist Pretoria regime and condemned the crimes perpetrated daily against the black minority in that country. They reiterated their support for the South African nationalists who have been waging a relentless and heroic struggle under the leadership of the ANC for a just and democratic South Africa.

Examining the situation in Namibia, the two presidents reaffirmed their active, unflagging solidarity with the brotherly people of Namibia in their struggle against colonial domination and racism. In this connection, they expressed the need for the international community to leave no stone unturned to ensure the prompt implementation of the UN and OAU decisions on the independence of the Namibian people under the leadership of their only representative, SWAPO. The two heads of state vehemently condemned the maneuvers of the racist regime in Pretoria aimed at delaying the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435. In this regard, they reaffirmed their firm desire to increase their support to SWAPO in its struggle to achieve independence for Namibia. Examining the situation in the Middle East, Presidents Abdou Diouf and Gnassingbe Eyadema deplored the aggravation of the Lebanese crisis. They restated their convinction that a just and lasting peace can only be achieved with the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab territories including Jerusalem; the right of the Palestinian people to an independent state, and the right for each state in the region to existence within safe and guaranteed borders. They renewed their strong support to the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, in its just struggle to recover the inalienable rights of these people.

On the situation in the Gulf region, the two heads of state expressed their profound concern over the escalation of the fratricidal war between Iran and Iraq, and they urgently exhorted the two countries to initiate negotiations in order to end this conflict.

Examining the world economic situation charaterized notably by the increased protectionism, international monetary disorder, the excessive indebtedness of developing countries, and the crumbling of prices of their basic products, the two presidents expressed their concern over the widening gap between poor and rich countries, and they agreed to spare no effort to contribute toward the restoration of a new more just and equitable world economic order. To this end, the two presidents stated their strong conviction that only confident cooperation between developing countries and a concerted effort will enable them to fully and successfully achieve the aspirations of their people.

The two heads of state reaffirmed the need to coordinate their actions within subregional, regional, and international organizations. They emphasized the importance their two countries attach to an effective formation of subregional organizations, especially ECOWAS, for a progressive and effective integration of member countries. They expressed their firm determination to do everything possible to ensure the success of the 21st OAU summit, which will be devoted to a serious and thorough examination of the burning problems facing the African Continent, namely economic crisis, drought, desertification, famine, and debt. They praised the initiative of the UN secretary general in organizing the recent Geneva conference on emergency aid to drought stricken countries — a conference which recorded substantial assistance to these countries. They made an urgent appeal to international institutions and the world community to work together for a greater solidarity. The two heads of state expressed satisfaction with the mutual understanding which prevailed throughout their discussions and the working sessions between the two delegations and which perfectly reflects the friendship and fraternity between the people of Togo and Senegal.

At the end of his official visit, which has contributed toward the strengthening of cooperation relations between Togo and Senegal, His Excellency President Abdou Diouf, on behalf of his wife, his delegation, and for his own part, expressed his sincere gratitude to His Excellency Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, to the government and the people of Togo for the warm and fraternal welcome and the generous reception accorded them throughout their stay in the Republic of Togo. His Excellency President Abdou Diouf invited His Excellency Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People and president of the Republic of Togo, to pay an official visit to Senegal. This invitation was accepted with great pleasure and the date of the visit will be set through diplomatic channels.

Issued in Kara on 23 April 1985.

[Signed] For the Republic of Togo, His Excellency Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema founding chairman of the RPT, president of the republic

For the Republic of Senegal, His Excellency Abdou Diouf, president of the republic

ANGOLA

Portuguese General Conducts Friendship Visit

MB241808 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] General Vasco Goncalves of the Portuguese Armed Forces has been in Angola for several days within the framework of the celebrations marking 25 April. Yesterday he visited two primary schools in Luanda Province. During his visit to school No 106 and Herois de Cangamba School, Gen Vasco Goncalves, who arrived in Angola at the invitation of the Angolan Government authorities, was able to familiarize himself with the functioning of those education centers. It is worth recalling that the Angolan people are marking 25 April with the holding of a number of activities coordinated by the representatives of the Portuguese community in Angola and the Angolan League for Friendship and Solidarity With Peoples.

KUP Reports UNITA Operation Claiming 130 Lives

MB250826 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 25 Apr (KUP) — UNITA forces have intensified their military operations in the northeast of Lunda Province. They have attacked two MPLA military barracks, one in Calonda, 24 km southeast of Lucapa, and the other at Muriege, 76 km north of Nova Chaves. UNITA forces also attacked the (Chanquilo) military barracks 41 km southeast of Saurimo and two battalions of the 62th MPLA brigade between the Chicapa and (Cambanze) rivers. These attacks caused 130 MPLA dead in the first two weeks of April. According to the same communique from the chief of staff of the UNITA armed forces, 89 rifles were also captured during these operations.

MOZAMBIQUE

Rebels Claim 2 MIG's Downed With SAM-7's

HK250356 Hong Kong AFP in English 0335 gmt 25 Apr

[Text] Lisbon, April 25 (AFP) — Guerrillas of the Mozambican National Resistance (MNR) Movement have for the first time used SAM-7 ground to air missiles to shoot down planes of Mozambique's Armed Forces, a MNR spokesman claimed here Wednesday.

He said two MIG-19 fighter planes were shot down at Maganja da Costa, Zambezia Province, last April 16, and a MI-24 helicopter was downed the next day at Sofala, Mepochica Province, the Portuguese news agency NOTICIAS DE PORTUGAL reported.

The MNR had already announced the destruction of the planes Sunday, but did not specify then that missiles were used.

Mozambique's Defense Ministry said the two fighters were lost in "an accident". The ministry said one pilot was killed and the other injured.

Government Denies Claim

MB270716 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] The Mozambican Government has denied claims by the rebel MNR [Mozambique National Resistance] movement that two of its jet fighters have been shot down. The MNR made the claim early this week and a rebel representative in Lisbon said yesterday that the MNR had used ground to air missiles to down the two fighters. If the claims are true, this would be the first time the MNR has used ground to air missiles in the 8-year conflict; but the chief of staff of the Mozambican Armed Forces, General Sebastiao Mabote, has described the claims as a pure lie. He says no planes have been hit by missiles, but says that two fighters were damaged last week when they made a forced landing because, he says, they lacked fuel.

SOUTH AFRICA

Joint Operational Center With Mozambique Planned

MB241618 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has announced that the Governments of Mozambique and South Africa are to establish a joint operational center to give full effect to the Nkomati Accord. Mr Botha made the announcement during the debate on his budget vote in the House of Delegates. He said the center to be established with effect from 1 May would for the time being use existing facilities at the Lebombo-Ressano Garcia border post.

Mr Botha said the Nkomati operational center was a practical manifestation of the desire of both countries to reaffirm the accord and to implement its decisions fully.

Officials of both countries were planning suitable permanent buildings for the center. The center, which would straddle the South African-Mozambican border, would consist of offices and conference facilities to be used by both countries to deal with security matters and other questions of common concern.

Mr Botha said that because the banks of the Nkomati River where the accord was signed was subject to flooding, the permanent buildings would be constructed a short distance away.

PFP Spokesman Welcomes Center

MB250735 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] PFP [Progressive Federal Party] spokesman on foreign affairs, Mr Colin Eglin, says he welcomes the establishment of a joint operational center by Mozambique and South Africa if it cements relations born out of the Nkomati Accord. Speaking in the debate on the foreign affairs budget vote in the House of Assembly, Mr Eglin said, however, that there were many questions concerning the center that had to be answered. He wanted to know from the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, if the arrangement replaced the joint security commission set up after

the Nkomati Accord, and whether it implied joint security operations by the SADF and Mozambican troops inside Mozambique. Mr Eglin also wanted to know whether the minister had taken steps toward negotiating proper diplomatic relations between Mozambique and South Africa.

When announcing the establishment of the center, Mr Botha said it was a practical manifestation of the desire on the part of both countries to reaffirm the Nkomati Accord, and to implement its decisions fully.

Commentary Urges Ending Violence in Mozambique

MB241131 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Station commentary: "Violence in Mozambique"]

[Text] It is in the interests of Mozambique that the violence in that country come to an end immediately. More than 1 year after the signing of the Nkomati Accord between South Africa and Mozambique, the security situation in that country remains unresolved. Renamo continues to run rampant in that country, and all development programs have been paralyzed.

Efforts by South Africa to act as an intermediary in bringing about peace have failed, and South Africa has abandoned efforts to do so, apparently blaming Renamo for intransigence. In a strong stand against the activities of Renamo in Mozambique, the South African deputy minister of foreign affairs, Mr Louis Nel, said that South Africa had given up all attempts to try to arrange a peace agreement between the Frelimo government and Renamo, and South Africa was now seeking ways of cooperating with Frelimo to eliminate the Renamo threat.

This shift in policy follows a series of bilateral meetings between the two governments, after which both sides reaffirmed their commitment to the March 1984 Nkomati Accord. In an interview, Mr Nel said: Our priority now is to help get rid of Renamo and to work with the international community to block their supplies. The essential foundation for the Nkomati Accord was the acceptance by both signatories of the legitimate security demands of the other. With it went a commitment not to permit any form of aggressive action from within the borders of either state against the other.

Within months, South Africa reaped the benefits of the accord, and there was a marked reduction in the number of terrorist attacks on this country out of Mozambique. Mozambique did not experience the same improvement in her security situation, with the result that there does rest on South Africa a moral obligation to assist that country. In addition to announcing wide-ranging steps aimed at stopping any attempts to give aid to Renamo, the South African Government has offered to participate in a joint security force aimed at protecting strategic installations in Mozambique.

Right now, the scenario in Mozambique is a tragic one, and Renamo owes it to the tens of thousands of suffering Mozambicans to stop its violence and allow the development program offered by the international community to come to fruition. Perhaps in the final analysis it is only the people of Mozambique who can force Renamo to stop its fighting.

Commission Continues Inquiry of Langa Incident

MB251024 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] The Kannemeyer Commission of inquiry has heard that the crowd at Uitenhage had obeyed the police command to stop. (Sibi Nkonjeni) told the commission that the crowd stopped, but were still shot at. He has also said police in two casspirs in the front of the crowd dismounted and, in his words, shot down into people trying to get off the ground.

He says that the crew of a third casspir also shot at the fleeing crowd, and later scattered stones among the dead and injured. He says he was shot in the back and had to run to a nearby house where he watched the scene. He says he was in the third row of the funeral march when they were stopped by the police.

Conservatives Decry Marriage, Sex Law Reforms

MB250704 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Right-wing forces in South Africa are teaming up in their opposition to sex and marriage between people of different races. The Conservative Party and the Herstigte Nasionale Party [HNP — Reformed National Party] have held a joint meeting to resist the repeal of the Mixed Marriages Act and Section 16 of the Immorality Act.

In the Pretoria city hall last night, about 3,000 conservative Afrikaaners applauded loudly when HNP leader Jaap Marais called on Afrikaaners to nail the ruling National Party [NP] to what he called the pole of shame, and he accused the NP of turning its back on Afrikaaner nationalism.

Conservative Party leader Andries Treurnicht described the laws against interracial sex and marriage as the pillar of separate development. He predicted that their repeal would lead to the complete abandonment of separate development.

The government announced last week that the laws could be scrapped within months.

Commentary Condemns Democratic Front's Role

MB250836 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The announcement by the United Democratic Front [UDF] that it would stage mass demonstrations against the New Zealand rugby tour — with a warning by its leadership that violence could result — was a clear escalation of the organization's activist role in South African politics. The firm assurance that has now been given that it will not be permitted, is therefore an essential response from the state to a challenge that has

already exceeded the limits of what may be tolerated in a society espousing democratic ideals.

The UDF executive delivered its warning at the recent congress, at which it decided to launch what it called a new phase in its activities. There are reports that it is cooperating even now with extremist groups in New Zealand in attacks on rugby clubs by no means confined to peaceful protest. This new phase must be stopped in its tracks — for the sake of the tour, certainly, but no less for the survival of the voices of moderation and conciliation in the black masses.

That the endemic unrest in some of South Africa's urban black areas is characterized by the systematic exploitation of community grievances is nowadays denied only on the outermost fringes of left-wing politics. Obviously, there are genuine grievances, and the dissatisfaction to which they give rise is felt especially accutely by young people, who are the first generation of blacks to graduate en masse to high school and further education.

At the same time, those grievances are not only expressly acknowledged, but have been — and are — the subject of determined programs to deal with the causes. The hoary accusations that the situation of blacks has, if anything, deteriorated over the years is, as Mr Harry Oppenheimer said last week, demonstrably untrue. Keeping the fiction alive is in the interests only of those whose aims are subverted by peaceful evolutionary progress.

That faction of South African black politics that opposes negotiation as a means of resolving political differences is most stridently represented in the leadership of the UDF. They have made no secret of their goal of spreading their noncooperation dogma throughout the urban black community — a process that is accompanied by violence, the scale and brutality of which is testified to by the reports that appear almost daily in the media.

The political purpose is clear: UDF leaders say they will not participate in the national forum, since it would not accommodate the whole range of their concrete demands for the restructuring of South African society. Thus, the demand is for capitulation to their particular political program, among the many propagated by political groupings, white and black, in the country, making a mockery of negotiation and the people's democratic aspirations.

Two fundamentally opposed visions of the future of South African society are in conflict in the black areas in these days. One sees in that future a rigidly authoritarian system imposing the political creed of its creators. The other sees in it a democratic dispensation, awkward and cumbersome, as democracies are, but upholding the principles of group security and individual freedom and opportunity, as only democracies do. If this is the view that is to prevail, its adherents cannot be abandoned to township terrorism.

SWAZILAND

Police Head on Mozambican Extradition Treaty

MB241920 Mbabane Television Service in English 1815 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] The commissioner of police, Mr Majaji Simelane, has appealed to the governments of Swaziland and the People's Republic of Mozambique, to draw up an extradition treaty to facilitate the transfer of offenders who take refuge in the two countries. Addressing a press conference in his office this morning, Mr Simelane said that the Royal Swazi Police have established that two former students of the University of Swaziland [UNISWA], who were arrested on charges of distributing subversive pamphlets and later released on bail, have left the country and taken refuge in neighboring Mozambique. Mr Simelane said that in the absence of an extradition treaty, there was no way the police could get the two former students, Felizwe Dlamini, and David Vilakazi, to return to Swaziland to face the charges. He said the police had also established that two crown witnesses, Lucky Mthembu, and Gabriel Mkumane, had also taken refuge in Mozambique. All in all, he said, nine former UNISWA students are now known to be residing in Mozambique.

Mr Simelane told newsmen that the two accused, who were arrested in Siteki, were granted bail by a magistrate there despite objection by police who feared that the two would skip bail and seek refuge in Mozambique. Five other former UNISWA students, believed to be led by Mr Gavin MacFadden, he said were also known to be living in Mozambique after escaping from Swaziland where they face criminal charges. He said the two accused were granted bail on condition that they reported to the Siteki police twice a week. They never reported there, and the court subsequently issued a warrant for their arrest. Mr Simelane said that four earlier escapees have now proclaimed their avowed intention never to return to Swaziland, and the police believe that MacFadden and his colleagues were likely to make a similar undertaking. He added that an extradition treaty would go along way towards minimizing the crime rate between the two countries. The proven offences committed by criminals in the two countries involved car theft, and the theft of general goods, including livestock.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Gives Press Conference, Announces Changes

MB241340 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0840 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Press conference by President Kaunda from State House, Lusaka — live]

[Excerpts] Comrade chairman, countrymen, excellencies, [words indistinct], I have called this press conference to discuss through the media of the press some changes that I am making this morning in the structure of the party and government leadership, to discuss the economy, and also the problem of drug trafficking. Insofar as the first issue is concerned, I want to begin by referring to the top leadership in the party and government. I am referring

to the posts of secretary general, prime minister, and secretary of state for defense and security.

I am making changes in these positions, and I want in the first place to thank Comrades Humphrey Mulemba, Nalumino Mundia, and Grey Zulu for the work that they have done while occupying these key posts in the nation. I do not need to elaborate on that, because I believe you have all followed what they have been doing with us and for us. All I can say, therefore, is I am grateful to all three of them.

The changes that come about now will mean that Comrade Humphrey Mulemba and Comrade Nalumino Mundia will go and continue in the leadership of the nation, but serve us as a nation, as a people, overseas. I cannot name the countries to which they will be posted, because I have naturally to notify the governments. I shall notify the governments of the countries where I am asking them to serve, and which they have kindly agreed to do.

This means, therefore, that the changes at home must be in accordance with the few changes I have made in the (?structure) I have just referred to. Comrade Grey Zulu goes back again as secretary general of the party. I thought we should bring in some young person to come and reinforce the ranks at that level of leadership. I have looked at Comrade Kebby Musokotwane. Here, again, I do not need to elaborate what he has done in the Ministries of Lands and Natural Resources, (?Finance), Youth and Sports, and now, [words indistinct]. He has also been chairman of Youth League for a number of years, and [words indistinct] when he was elected by [word indistinct] When Kebby Musokotwane was elected, he was disqualified by age. He comes to [word indistinct].

I have looked at those of my colleagues who have had experience in the field of handling matters of defense and security. As a member of the central committee in charge of the Copperbelt and many other provinces that he has led, I found that Comrade Alex Kaunda Shapi (?can) do this job. Alex Kaunda Shapi becomes secretary of state for defense and security. He is no (?brother) of mine, Kaunda is just a name. Even if he were, by doing the job as he has done it, I would have appointed him any way. But he is not a (?brother), or a cousin, or anything else [words indistinct].

The other posts in the line up of the leadership remain as they are. Comrade Ruben Kamanga stays as chairman of the rural development committee, Comrade Mudenda remains as chairman of the appointments aid disciplinary committee, Comrade Lisulo remains as chairman of the political and legal committee, Comrade Bob Litana has [words indistinct], and I have accepted that, and so in his place I have appointed Comrade Funes Bulawayo as chairman of elections and publicity committee. Meanwhile he is also going to (?supervise) Lusaka until the new man [words indistinct] comes to Lusaka, and I will be announcing that in a few minutes.

Comrade Baxon Soko continues as chairman of the economic and finance committee, Comrade Chibesa Kankasa continues as chairman of Women's League, and Comrade Mary Fulano continues as chairman of the youth and sport committee. Comrade Zenniah Ndhlovu continues as executive secretary of the Women's League, and Comrade Kamalondo continues as executive secretary of the Youth League.

Comrade Kapulu goes to the Central Province as member of the Central Committee in charge of that province. Comrade Mumpanshya goes to Luapula Province, and Comrade Kapulu comes to Lusaka to take over from Comrade Bulawayo as memebr of the Central Committee in charge of Lusaka Province.

Comrade Mutale continues in the Copperbelt Province, Comrade Chilunga continues in the Eastern Province, Comrade (Nyambe) continues, Comrade Mutuka continues, Comrade Liso continues, Comrade Yeta continues, in their respective provinces.

These announcements necessitate some other changes, and without presuming what the National Council is going to decide, I am going to recommend election to the membership of the Central Committee two men. Comrade Clement Mwananshiku will come to the Central Committee if the National Council elects him. Comrade Ludwig Sondashi comes to the Central Committee if the National Council elects him. These are my nominations and, indeed, the National Council is [word indistinct]. They will decide [words indistinct] whether they accept my recommendations which, of course, I have to take to the Central Committee in the first instance.

If my recommendation to the Central Committee and, through the Central Committee, the National Council, that Comrade Clement Mwananshiku should go to the Central Committee comes about, it means that there will be a vacancy in the Ministry of Defense. I am equally pleased to announce that I have appointed a soldier for the first time as the minister of defense, and this is our commander, Army commander, Malimba Masheke. He becomes minister of defense. Before he retires from the Army as such to take up his new post, he has also been promoted to full generalship. From lieutenant general to full general.

The position of Comrade Masheke as Army commander will be taken over by Major General Chris Tembo. In the Air Force there is no change. Comrade Hannaniah Lungu continues to lead the Air Force.

In Lusaka we have been waiting for some time for the report to come on Comrade Mwewa. The commission, which is really overworked, has kept me briefed on how they are progressing, but they cannot report as yet. Lusaka is our capital city, and I cannot allow it to continue [words indistinct]. I have appointed Comrade (Dennis Odoki), who has methodically begun to work on resolving the problems of the capital city. [Words indistinct] Lusaka, as I will be saying in a minute. For the time being, I am announcing the name of the new governor, which is that of Member of Parliament Michael Sata. I know he talks a lot in parliament. [Laughter] I hope he will talk to the problems now. [Laughter] There have been problems [words indistinct].

Also [words indistinct] is the move I have made on Lusaka rural. I have brought in an old timer, who is also a member of parliament, Comrade Francis Matanda, who becomes district governor, Lusaka rural. Comrade (Namukando) [words indistinct] moves over to national guidance. The district governor, national guidance, (Masawa), goes to Chinsali in the same capacity, and

the present district governor at Chinsali reverts to his previous position as member of parliament. We thank him for what he has done, now he must become an ordinary member of parliament, and Comrade (Masawa) goes to Chinsali as district governor, his position as national guidance is taken over by Comrade (Namukando).

These are the changes I have made in the structure of the party and its government. Naturally, the program the new structure will follow will have to be [words indistinct]. You have faced tremendous problems [words indistinct] your endeavors, you still face those problems, as I told our party militants in the (?Army) and the Air Force seminar yesterday. We face grave problems, problems of immense complexity.

I do not think I need to repeat them here again, but (?we have talked of various) problems. [Word indistinct] we make mistakes ourselves. We cannot for example organize the little foreign exchange which comes into our coffers effectively [words indistinct]. But, apart from that, and, indeed, corruption which I am coming to a little later, we really are suffering as a result of other people's activities, not ours. We are not [words indistinct] decisions taken in other parts of the world affect our economy adversely. The oil prices are (?phenomenal). Until the Good Lord [words indistinct] into our [word indistinct] we have no choice but to purchase that oil at the same exorbitant prices, otherwise our industries will not run. So, oil purchasing is a must, high as the prices are. Much as they take away most of our foreign exchange, what can we do? Problem number one. Goods and services we must [word indistinct] from our developed neighbors in the developed north are so expensive, we have to pay through the nose for them. What can we do? We must continue to purchase them at great cost to our own developmental efforts. [Words indistinct] goods that we must export to their developed markets fetch very very low prices. Our brothers and sisters in the developed north must decide how much they are going to pay for what we produce, and they must decide how much they are going to pay us, and at how much, at what cost.

[Words indistinct] in the end we have to pay the price of being underdeveloped. The high interest rate [words indistinct]. The World Bank representatives are here in the ccuntry [words indistinct] they have more supportive, more reasonable conditions that they ask us to follow. The IMF leadership is also here [words indistinct]. At least I am [word indistinct] of the fact that IMF officials are officials of their [words indistinct]. They do not decide alternatives. It would [word indistinct] the developed countries that [words indistinct] the IMF so that it decides on these policies. It is not [words indistinct]. They are carrying out policies [words indisitnct] for them. [Words indistinct] but I know [words indistinct] by developed countries on the IMF. We are members of that club, IMF. But it is some type of membership as you might have. [Word indistinct] the lion's share will have to go to the lion if we are to eat meat together, the lion and the [word indistinct].

This is where we stand together today. We have grave economic problems. How do you get out of these problems? [Words indistinct] and continue to struggle to find out what we can do to strengthen the kwacha. [Words indistinct] as such if the kwacha is weak. You can go on devaluing the kwacha but if it does not get [words indistinct] results what do you do? We devalued the kwacha to increase the [words indistinct] of activity, production, and we suffer in other areas, despite [words indistinct] by the same amount that we devalued.

I referred to corruption. The prime minister will have to work very hard to see to it that civil servants are working. At the moment we are not so sure that we are all contributing as matters should be.

One of the problems that have come up is that of owning little businesses here and there, people in key positions in the civil service. We must (?work out this) because the general orders [words indistinct] do you not know that? When some people are working in their offices, their minds, their hearts are elsewhere, thinking how are they going to keep their businesses running properly. You cannot be in two roles at one and the same time. That is the problem. The party leadership has got to see that the [word indistinct] council resolution on the leadership code is practiced strictly, because here again, we in the party leadership must lead by example. I think time must come soon, sooner or later, when this question of exemption in the leadership code should end, so that we have got a straightforward policy. If you are in politics, you are in politics. If you are in business you are in business. The party too must work out a program of bringing about workers' participation. This is industrial participatory democracy. That being a program that is worked out directly under my control. Comrade Widzimula has that program. He knows what I want him to do.

We have parastatals where more or less the same thing as is happening in the civil service is taking place here. Managing directors, general managers, managers, and others, are all busy, busy managing part-time businesses. It is either you are a parastatal leader or you are not. That again must be checked in the next (?few) years. Workers' participation, industrial participatory democracy means just that. Power to the people in [words indistinct] does not begin and end with state enterprise. State enterprise is already [words indistinct] where the workers themselves participate fully in each and every industry, public or private. They are all God's people. We cannot say we are running a country [words indistinct]. The Ministry of Cooperatives must strengthen the role, its role, by activating cooperatives, and as well as its [words indistinct] properly. Cooperatives is a great leveler in our society. So we must soldier on. The task is gigantic. Problems are of the Himalayan type, and yet Zambia must prevail. Zambia must win. This is one battle, one war, that we cannot afford to lose, bringing back the economy to the [word indistinct].

Let us tackle the problems of drugs. When I [words indistinct] of our young men in London, three governments came to realize that we did not, as Zambia, condone the mandrax programs of some people. So they produced to me very, very useful information on how Zambia had become the center — the center — of drugs trafficking in this part of the world. We did not (?know of) matters as we do now. Indeed just lately I ordered the detention of some notorious characters in the field. Some of the, two Zambians — a husband and a wife — and two whites — their so-called employees — have escaped my dragnet. They must be in the country. I am asking them again to give themselves up to

the police for detention. If they are innocent they will be released; if they are innocent they will be released. The law must take its own course. We must fight drugs trafficking in Zambia. It is a shameful blot. Apart from the effects drug taking has an innocent human being and his soul, [words indistinct]. I submit to you this mandrax trafficking is the problem of new cars that we keep seeing in Lusaka, [words indistinct] new cars. We believe there is a linkage not [words indistinct] Cuban troops in Angola and Namibia. But there is another linkage, a real linkage between the mandrax trafficking in Zambia, and the new cars that are coming in from South Africa. There is a linkage, but I cannot make a report to the nation until our investigations are over. Those that I have decided to detain are going to help the police and other security services to investigate this problem of mandrax dealing in Zambia.

Kaunda Asks New Prime Minister for Inquiry

MB250622 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] The president has directed the newly appointed prime minister, Kebby Mosokotwane, to ensure that there is accountability in the civil service, and that civil servants contributed to the nation through honest work.

Dr Kaunda expressed displeasure at the rate of work in the civil service, adding that he was not sure whether civil servants were contributing to the nation's development as they should.

Dr Kaunda hit out against tendencies by top government and parastatal officials of running private businesses whilst in office, contrary to the provision of general orders.